MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 MAY 1981

Lebanese Situation

Military Situation--Citing eyewitnesses, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that Syrian reinforcements have been sent to the Suhmur and Yuhmur areas of the southern Al-Biqa' valley, some 25 km from the Galilee panhandle, as well as to Kfar Tibnit near An-Nabatiyah. A Monte Carlo Radio report said two Syrian armored brigades entered the western and southern parts of the Al-Biqa' valley early on 7 May. Jerusalem radio, citing authoritative Jerusalem sources, said in the evening of 7 May that Israel has no information about Syrian troop movements south of the Az-Zahrani River. According to Voice of Lebanon, Israeli planes flew reconnaisance missions in the south during the day. INA, citing witnesses from the border strip, said Israel has deployed around 200 tanks and has installed nine long-range artillery batteries in the eastern sector of the Christian enclave.

Beirut Radio said the capital and Zahlah were calm, while Voice of Lebanon reports said Syrian and Palestinian forces shelled Lebanese Army positions in Beirut during the afternoon of 7 May and the following morning. Beirut Radio said that new clashes broke out along the Beirut contact lines on 8 May and Voice of Lebanon said the firing brought all activity in the port to a standstill.

Habib Visit--Bierut Radio reported that special U.S. Envoy Philip Habib met with Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis early on 8 May. The previous day, QNA reported, Habib had traveled overland to Beirut from Damascus, to which he will return for a 2-day visit after 2 days in the Lebanese capital. According to Voice of Lebanon, former Lebanese President Camille Sham'un has sent Habib a letter that says the Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon have turned into an occupation force, causing widespread and indiscriminate bloodshed.

Talks With Soviet Envoy--Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Damascus Radio reported. According to Damascus television, he later held talks with President Hafiz al-Asad on the situation in the region. Korniyenko and Syrian Assistant Foreign Minister Nasir Qaddur submitted a report on their consultations regarding the regional situation and Israeli moves in Lebanon, and the president expressed his satisfaction at the results of the consultations. AFP reported that Korniyenko also met with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat.

Al-Asad, 'Arafat Meeting--Damascus Radio reported that President al-Asad and Foreign Minister Khaddam met with PLO leader 'Arafat and other Palestinian officials to discuss the results of 'Arafat's visit to several Gulf states.

Libyan Diplomacy--According to JANA, Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi telephoned President al-Asad, affirming his country's support for Syria, the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement and people in the current crisis. Beirut Radio said Al-Qadhdhafi also sent a message to Lebanese President Sarkis. Earlier in the week Libyan Foreign Secretary 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki had delivered messages from Al-Qadhdhafi on the Lebanese crisis to Gulf and Yemeni leaders. At-Turayki met the Kuwaiti amir on 4 May, KUNA reported, and was received by the UAE leader the following day, according to the GULF NEWS AGENCY. On 7 May, San'a' radio reported, he met with the YAR president.

Progressive National Front Statement--The Syrian Progressive National Front issued a statement, broadcast by Damascus television, condemning what it termed the U.S.-Israeli campaign against Syria. Admitting that Syria has sent some "air defense units" to Lebanon to protect its soldiers after they were attacked by Israeli forces, it said the United States was very disturbed by this defensive move, yet has for years tolerated Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon. Criticizing U.S. claims that the Soviet Union poses the main threat to the Middle East, the statement asserted that the Soviet Union is a friend to the Arabs, Syria and the Palestinians while the aggressive Israeli presence is the major threat to the area. The aim of the current U.S.-Israeli campaign against Syria, the statement said, is to liquidate the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement, to stop moves toward Lebanese national accord and to strike at Syria's stand against imperialist-Zionist schemes in the region. The Syrian people, it concluded, will continue to confront aggression, fearing neither Israel nor the United States.

Libya

In a statement on the expulsion of Libyan diplomats from the United States, the Foreign Liaison Bureau denied that Libya supports international terrorism, as charged by the U.S. State Department. The statement, carried by JANA, said it is the United States that commits acts of international terrorism, while Libya supports those who suffer under imperialism and foreign domination but condemns acts of terrorism that take innocent lives. The statement termed a "flimsy allegation" the charge that Libya exports revolution, saying the spread of thoughts does not acknowledge borders. The real reason for the U.S. action, the statement continued, is that the U.S. administration is unable to acknowledge the growing desire of people to control their own destinies and get rid of imposed "custodianship." If the United States continues its hostile policy toward Libya, the statement concluded, the Libyan people will take action to confront it.

Saudi Arabia

At a press conference in Riyadh following talks with Saudi leaders, Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky expressed his government's readiness to authorize the export to Saudi Arabia of any weapons the Saudis order from Austrian companies, SPA reported. Kreisky added that Saudi Arabia and Austria agree that the basis for a solution to the Middle East problem is recognition of the Palestinians' right to an independent state.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Two Iraqi MiG's were shot down over Abadan, Tehran radio reported, while Iraqi forces continued to shell Abadan, Hamidiyeh and Dezful, causing heavy losses and casualties. It also reported a dogfight over Marivan between an Iranian aircraft and two Iraqi MiG-21's in which the Iranian aircraft was damaged by an Iraqi missile. An Iraqi General Command communique carried by INA claimed two Iranian aircraft were shot down in the Susangerd region.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PALESTINIAN OFFICIALS DISCUSS LEBANON WITH KLIBI

JN031740 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Tunis--A Palestinian delegation comprised of Brothers 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar and Talal Naji, members of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Tunis to participate in the meetings on the Palestinian encyclopedia. They also met with Brother Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, in the presence of the PLO representative in Tunis. They reviewed the most important events in the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas in the light of the Zionist military escalation in southern Lebanon and the security explosion provoked by the isolationist militias in Beirut and other parts of Lebanon.

Those attending the meeting emphasized the necessity of taking an urgent Arab stand to confront these Zionist-isolationist attacks, supported by U.S. imperialism, which aim at annihilating the Palestinian people, its armed revolution and the Lebanese nationalist movement. They urged such a step to protect the independence, Arabism and unity of Lebanon, both of its land and its people.

FATAH OFFICIAL MEETS DEMOCRATIC NATIONALIST GROUP

JN052040 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1845 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], member of the Fatah Central Committee, met this evening with the members of the Political Bureau of the Democratic Nationalist Lebanese Movement ('ADL).

The meeting was attended by Brothers Abu al-Walid [Col Sa'd Sayil] and Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid], Fatah Central Committee members.

The latest developments in the situation and the Zionist military escalation in southern Lebanon were reviewed.

OAPEC PRESS STATEMENT ON 6 MAY KUWAIT MEETING

LD062118 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 May 81

[Press statement issued on 26th session of OAPEC held in Kuwait on 6 May]

[Text] The OAPEC Ministerial Council held its 26th session on 6 May 1981 under the chairmanship of the Bahraini minister of development and industry, Yusuf ash-Shirawi, following the transfer of the chairmanship of the session from the UAE to Bahrain in accordance with the organization's statute.

The council announced the establishment of the judiciary body and the following have been elected as judges in this body: At-Tijani Zubayr, assistant; Faris al-Qayyam, 'Abd al-Amir al-Anbari, 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Khalifah, 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mansuri, 'Izz ad-in al-Mabruk, Ghazari Nasr ad-Din, Muhammad Khalil Khalil and Mustafa as-Sayyid.

The council acquainted itself with the measures taken for the establishment of the Arab company for engineering consultations whose formation is expected to be announced by the company's founding assembly during its meeting scheduled to be held in Abu Dhabi on 12 May 1981. It also decided to set up a ministerial committee from the State of Bahrain, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Algerian Republic to follow up the project.

The council also approved the report of the Ministerial Committee regarding the drydock project in Algeria. It also approved the agreement regarding the setting up of the Arab (?shipping) company, and its basic statute, which will be set up at Mers el-Kebir port in the Algerian Republic.

The council approved the formation of a ministerial committee from the UAE and Bahrain to study the links between the Arab company for the construction and repair of ships in Bahrain and the drydock in Dubai.

The council approved the recommendation of the General Secretariat regarding the tightening of the boycott provisions against the racist regime of South Africa. It also evaluated the measures taken regarding the second Arab energy conference and the efforts made to convene the session of the gas and oil industry fundamentals and discussed the present studies regarding the manufacturing of single-cell proteins.

The council acquainted itself with the annual report of the Arab Oil Training Institute and approved the final accounts for 1980. It also decided to set up a committee to study the cost of a project to establish a permanent headquarters for the institute. The council approved the final accounts of the organization for 1980. It also accepted the invitation of the UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources to hold its next meeting in Abu Dhabi, in the UAE on 9 December 1981.

OAPEC BULLETIN CITED ON PRICING, PRODUCTION

LD051340 Vienna OPECNA in English 1605 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] Kuwait, 4 May (OPECNA)--The growing practice of making long-term purchaes of crude oil has been criticized as "favoring" the buyers by the organ of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

An editorial in the current issue of the OAPEC bulletin says that these trends would lead to further exhaustion of Arab crude reserves. It cites recent Interntional Energy Agency (IEA) plans to reduce the consumption targets of its members to lower levels than those of last year, as evidence of these trends. Another indication, according to the editorial, is Mexico's decision to reduce the price of its heavy crude by 2.5 U.S. dollars per barrel and the current price drop in spot purchases.

Crude oil buyers, the editorial further notes, continue to assume a tough stance in renewal contract talks, and are maneuvering to minimize prices by prolonging negotiations. The Arab oil-producers should therefore be particularly alarmed by this trend which may eventually lead to harmful market competition among oil producing countries, the editorial comments.

Whereas the major industrial countries have succeeded in coordinating their oil prices, trimming down their consumption levels and coordinating their purchases of OPEC oil, production and price regulatory measures remain an open issue among the oil producing countries, it adds. The question therefore arises as to whether the producing countries will be capable of coordinating their oil policies by regulating and planning their pricing and production levels in a manner which protects them against market fluctuations and prolongs the life span of their reserves, the editorial concludes.

ARAB TELECOMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE PLANNED

LD051415 Vienna OPECNA in English 1550 GMT 4 May 81

[Excerpts] Amman, 4 May (OPECNA)--The first Arab telecommunications satellite is expected to be in operation by 1983. The American space-shuttle Columbia will carry the satellite into orbit 22,500 miles above the Earth. At a meeting here, the Arab Organization for Space Communications (AOSC) decided to award the contract for the manufacture of the satellite to an international company. A supporting Earth station will be built in Saudi Arabia.

After the Amman meeting, the director general of AOSC, Dr 'Ali al-Mashat, said he hoped the satellite project would be completed by 1983. He said the satellite would provide 8,000 telephone lines and six television channels. AOSC has reserved the necessary launching facilities with the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The meeting, attended by Algeria, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates, decided to increase the AOSC budget to 200 million U.S. dollars.

YAMANI DENIES ASKING FOR OIL PRICE REDUCTION

LD061034 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0853 GMT 6 May 81

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 6 May (KUNA)--Analysts have said that a statement made yesterday by Saudi Petroleum Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani (?reduces) fears of a possible confrontation at the OPEC conference over the issue of oil prices. Shaykh Yamani denied that he asked for a reduction in prices. Previous reports on his calling for a reduction of prices aroused opposition from countries calling for a price hike, among them Libya. Last night Shaykh Yamani said, "This is the fifth time that I say that we do not want the OPEC countries to reduce their prices."

QATAR, UAE MINISTERS PROPOSE OIL PRICE FREEZE

LD061300 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1221 GMT 6 May 81

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 6 May (KUNA)--Two Gulf oil-exporting countries, the UAE and Qatar, today proposed freezing oil prices as a means of avoiding disputes among OPEC members.

The UAE minister of petroelum, Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, told journalists here that he supports freezing prices, while the Qatari minister of finance and oil, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, said that he did not expect an increase in prices until the end of this year.

The two ministers, who are attending the OAPEC conference here in Kuwait, were speaking on the expected differences over prices when OPEC holds its ministerial conference in Geneva on 25 May.

NIGERIAN, IRANIAN OFFICIALS DISCUSS OPEC UNITY

AB072151 Paris AFP in French 1855 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Lagos, 7 May (AFP)--The acting Iranian oil minister, Mr Hasan Sadat, and the Nigerian vice president, Mr Alex Ekwueme, have been speaking about the need for OPEC member states to show solidarity among themselves, official sources in the Nigerian capital said on Thursday.

During talks in Lagos on Wednesday before Mr Sadat's departure for Libya as part of his tour of African oil-producing countries, Libya, Algeria, Gabon, Nigeria, the two leaders said OPEC's interest has been affected by the activities of one or two member countries on the world market, the same sources specified.

Mr Sadat, who was accompanied by a six-member delegation, also held talks with President Shagari's adviser on petroleum affairs, Mallam Yahaya Dikko, who had returned from Caracas, Venezuela, and authorities of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation.

Leaving the Nigerian capital on Wednesday night, Mr Sadat said his country would maintain the oil embargo imposed on South Africa.

Mr Sadat arrived in Tripoli on Thursday for an official visit to Libya.

KUWAIT

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES LEBANON WITH U.S., USSR ENVOYS

LD071320 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Foreign Under Secretary Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rashid today held separate meetings with the U.S. ambassador to Kuwait, Francois Dickman, and the Soviet ambassador, Nikolay Sikachev. KUNA says that Arab and international efforts are being made to calm the situation in Lebanon and to halt the threats to wage war against the Arab Deterrent Forces [words indistinct] threatening an explosion of the situation in the region.

DETAINED SHIP SAID TO HAVE BEEN IN KUWAITI WATERS

LD061048 Kuwait KUNA Diplomatic Information Service in Arabic 0950 GMT 6 May 81

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 6 May (KUNA)--Kuwait's ambassador to Iran, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasim, has stated that the seismic research ship, Western Sea, was in Kuwaiti territorial waters when it was detained by the Iranian Navy last Friday. Ambassador Jasim stressed that the Iranian Government has not asked for an apology, but merely for a satisfactory response.

QATAR

YASIR 'ARAFAT RECEIVED BY AMIR KHALIFAH 6 MAY

GF061558 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 6 May 81

[Text] His highness the amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, received Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, who is on a short visit to Doha, at his office in Ad-Dawhah Palace this evening. Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister; Shaykh Nasir ibn Khalid Al Thani, commerce and trade minister; Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member; and Yasin ash-Sharif, the PLO representative in Doha, attended the meeting.

They reviewed Middle East developments in general and Palestinian developments in particular. 'Arafat briefed the amir on the current situation in southern Lebanon in the light of repeated Israeli aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and the threat this poses to the Palestinian revolution.

'Arafat arrived in Doha from Manama this afternoon on another leg of his Gulf tour during which he has visited Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. He was received at Doha International Airport by Shaykh Nasir ibn Khalid Al Thani, Yasin ash-Sharif and Ahmad Jasim al-Mulla, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

SAUDI ARABIA

KREISKY HOLDS RIYADH PRESS CONFERENCE, INTERVIEW

6 May Press Conference

LD070912 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 8150 GMT 6 May 81

[Text] Riyadh, 6 May (SPA)--Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky has stated that there is agreement in the views of the kingdom and Austria on many international issues, the Middle East issue and on the need for the Palestinian people to obtain their legitimate rights, in particular their right to setting up their own independent state.

This was stated by the Austrian chancellor at a press conference at his residence at Conferences Palace in Riyadh.

He began his conference with a statement in which he paid tribute to the relations between the kingdom and Austria in various spheres, on the political level in particular. In this respect he pointed out that his country was the first in West Europe to recognize the PLO and establish diplomatic relations with it. This recognition, he said, will be a factor contributing to Europe's recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people.

Regarding the economic relations between the kingdom and Austria, Kreisky said that last year because of the Iraqi-Iranian war Austria imported more oil from the kingdom than any other country. His country, he said, imports nearly $400 million worth of Saudi oil every year. He expressed eagerness to strengthen and promote his country's trade and economic relations with the kingdom, and also to increase its exports to the kingdom to adjust the trade balance between the two countries, which is in the kingdom's favor.

He said that his second visit to the kingdom was last year [word indistinct] and it was successful because it contributed to strengthening and improving economic relations between the two countries. [passage indistinct]

The Austrian chancellor then replied to questions put to him by journalists. Replying to a question about what he visualizes as the ideal solution for the Palestinian issue, since it is the crux of the Middle East issue, the Austrian chancellor said that he believes that it's not the task of other states to present completed solutions for the Palestinian issue, but that there are basic solutions and a basis for the issue. Most important of these is Israel's recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to set up their independent state in return for what he described as the Palestinians' recognition of Israel's right to exist and then arriving at the suitable climate for conducting a dialogue between the two sides to resolve the various problems. Chancellor Kreisky stressed that the presentation of the solution for the issue is the responsibility of those who have the problem.

To a question on his meeting in the kingdom with Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Chancellor Kreisky said that the meeting was merely by accident.

To a question on the price of oil the chancellor (?pointed out) that he has always demanded that oil prices be index-linked somehow to the prices of goods produced by the industrial countries. He said that the great powers have not yet adopted these proposals. He called for the industrial countries to intensify international efforts to assist the developing countries in the form of economic aid or of taking their advanced technology to the developing countries to help them achieve their desired development.

Replying to a question on Austria's readiness to supply the kingdom with the arms it has requested, the Austrian chancellor stated that this matter concerns the Austrian arms manufacturing companies alone, adding that the Austrian Government never interferes in this issue with the exception that these companies should, in accordance with Austrian laws, obtain government permission for exporting any weapons abroad. He expressed the Austrian Government's readiness to authorize the exportation of any weapons the kingdom orders from the Austrian arms manufacturing companies.

To a question of the new European initiative to resolve the Middle East issue, Chancellor Kreisky denied that he had any knowledge of it. Kreisky pointed out that European officials have begun to understand the importance and gravity of the Palestinian issue and also the need to find a solution for it. It called on these officials (?to influence the international attitude) when discussing any solution for the issue, in cooperation with the Arab countries.

Replying to a question on the possibility that he might be exposed to a Zionist propaganda campaign such as that to which Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany was exposed following his recent visit to the kingdom and following his statements which did not please the Israeli politicians, kreisky at first denied any connection between himself and members of the Government of the Israeli enemy. He added that he has long passed the stage of being sensitive to such campaigns after being exposed many times to the campaigns of the Zionist information especially by the current government of the enemy.

Regarding the Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan, Chancellor Kreisky renewed the rejection by the international community of this occupation to which an independent UN member state has been subjected. In this repsect he warned against the Soviet threat to the Gulf region, one of the most important and strategic regions in the world, adding that the Soviet Union is watching the region, waiting for opportunities. He called for the continuation of preserving peace and security in the region since this is the only solution for keeping it from the communist danger. On the situation in Lebanon he said it is a calamity. Israel no doubt contributes to the aggravation of this situation. He also pointed to the failure of the UN forces to confront the situation in southern Lebanon.

Vienna Radio Interview

AU071238 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1033 GMT 7 May 81

[Guenter Schmidt interview with Chancellor Bruno Kreisky in Riyadh on 7 May before his departure from Saudi Arabia--recorded]

[Summary] [Question] Mr Chancellor, what is the meaning of the royal instruction that all Saudi agencies are to pay special attention to trade with Austria?

[Answer] It is intended to show us that the Saudi Arabian side attaches a certain importance to economic relations with Austria.

[Question] Considering that the Saudis are known as sharp calculators, will they nevertheless not go for the cheapest and best offer?

[Answer] Surely you have a point there, but it does not generally apply. There are some products we have been able to sell here which, while being of very high quality, were less satisfactory to them as far as price was concerned--competition products were cheaper. That was frequently mentioned here. Nevertheless we hope to be able to obtain certain rather large orders.

[Question] What was the point in seeking additional oil deliveries at a time of a general oil surplus?

[Answer] "Our aim was not to seek additional deliveries but to ensure continuation of Austria's currently high oil deliveries from Saudi Arabia, so that we would not depend solely on energy supplies from one, certain part of the world."

[Question] And what are our guarantees?

[Answer] "One could not speak of guarantees in this context. What we were promised is that the Saudi Arabian side will always seek to meet our needs in this field to a very large extent--and I am putting that very cautiously, actually it was said much more clearly."

[Question] The Saudi Arabian defense minister attended the talks this morning. Did he show any interest in Austrian tanks?

[Answer] He did attend the talks, but this topic was not discussed. However, there must be interest in these Austrian tanks and other military equipment, because for more than 1 year these tanks and other military equipment have been tested here. "One can only hope that these tests will soon be concluded. We have reasonable hope that this will be concluded in the very near future."

[Question] Why did you say that there were no legal objections to such exports by the government, at a time when there were no contracts concluded yet, nor any export licenses requested?

[Answer] "I was asked what legal conditions exist for such exports, and I answered that question, that is all I did. I merely said what is stipulated by law, and from that one could draw the conclusion that there will be no objections on the part of the Federal Government to the conclusion of contracts, say, between the Steyr Works and Saudi Arabian institutions. Saudi Arabia is not in a state of war. Saudi Arabia is entitled, just as any other state, to buy its military equipment where it wants to buy, and also to defend [words indistinct]."

[Question] 'Arafat recently made a rather sharp statement directed against Europe--did you get any explanation when you talked with him?

[Answer] "I don't really think that 'Arafat's statement was all that sharp. In any case, 'Arafat yesterday clearly told me that the change in the attitude of Europe's democratic states is being highly valued."

UAE

'ARAFAT SUMMARIZES GULF TALKS BEFORE DEPARTURE

JN071422 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1315 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 May (ENA)--Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, left the country at noon today for Damascus following a short visit to the UAE at the end of a tour of several states in the area.

In a statement to ENA before his departure, Yasir 'Arafat praised the stand of the UAE under the leadership of His Highness President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan in supporting and aiding the Palestinian revolution to confront Zionist attacks on the Palestinian people. He said: I have held concentrated discussions with the leaders of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states which I visited. These discussions were characterized by a positive, brotherly attitude and concentrated on the serious situation through which the Arab nation is passing, particularly the Israeli-isolationist military escalation in southern Lebanon. He added that the Zionist enemy is using the most modern U.S. weapons against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in its continued attacks, and that these weapons include internationally banned weapons. He added that the Zionist enemy aims to implement its expansionist designs and strike at the Palestinian revolution by means of these attacks.

'Arafat said that his talks had also dealt with the recent developments between the Zionist enemy and the Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF), by means of which the enemy aims to strike at Syria. He affirmed that these conspiracies are destined to fail, and added, "We will fight the enemy with all the weapons we have." He went on to say, "We remind the enemy of the 8-day battle and the Ash-Shaqif battle, in which he tasted defeat."

He said that he had held talks with Arab leaders on the Arab situation, the Middle East situation in general, the Palestinian question in particular and the steadfastness of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied land. The talks also included the results of the visits paid by several Western officials to the area recently. He expressed satisfaction with the results of his tour and the talks he had held with the leaders of the countries of the area, and said, "I consider these talks to be successful, positive and constructive."

In answer to a question on the threats made by Zionist enemey Prime Minister Menachem Begin in which he announced the end of his patience on ADF preparations in southern Lebanon and the antiaircraft missile network, he said, "Begin's threats are not new to anyone, and we are prepared to confront any expected attack."

'Arafat said that the enemy is currently using all its arms in the south, including aircraft, the navy, rockets, artillery and paratroops. He concluded his statement by saying," Begin threatens, but we are not afraid of his threats because we are in the right. We are the ones who will threaten the usurping enemy until we fully regain our rights. Begin and all those supporting him must understand this and must know that the Palestinian revolution will remain steadfast in the face of all conspiracies to which it is subjected."

YAR

PRESIDENT DENIES SECRET ARMS DEALS WITH U.S., USSR

LD031204 Kuwait KUNA in English 1015 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Kuwait, 3 May (KUNA)--President of North Yemen 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih denied Sunday reports on recent clashes along the common border with Saudi Arabia and said relations between the two neighbouring countries were good. He said his government had not been subjected to any pressure to make it change its nonaligned policy.

In an interview published by AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM newspaper, the president also denied any secret deals to obtain Soviet or American weapons and said his government applies the policy of diversifying sources of its arms to that it would not be under the mercy of any particular party.

He said that achieving unity with South Yemen tops the priority list of his government's policy and added that the reunification process was going ahead as scheduled through joint committees. He expressed hope that cherished expectations would be realised soon.

The Yemeni president (?reiterated) a previous call for a halt in blood letting in the Gulf war and the safeguarding of the potential of the two warring countries.

He added that the Iraqi-Iranian war could be settled through peaceful negotiations and dialogue and the shunning of stubborn stands.

On the Middle East crisis, the president urged the Arab countries to reunify their ranks, to determine their stands regarding all initiatives and to agree upon a comprehensive action plan to confront the Camp David accords, which ignored the Palestinian people and the PLO, who are the essence of the Middle East crisis.

He said his government encourages Yemeni citizens to join the Palestinian revolution and fight against Israel and added that those killed in the fighting would be considered as martyrs of the Yemeni Army and their families would enjoy financial aid given to families of soldiers.

The president welcomed a recent proposal by Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad to host a round-table conference for the warring Lebanese parties and said the proposal was a step towards settlement of the Lebanese crisis.

GHALI DISCUSSES LEBANON WITH U.S. CHARGE

NC071617 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met with the U.S. charge d'affaires in Cairo today. Dr Ghali said they made a comprehensive review of the situation in the light of the developments in Lebanon and the outcome of the contacts now underway to remove the causes of the tension. The U.S. charge d'affaires explained the mission of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's envoy.

Dr Ghali said he affirmed Egypt's denunciation of every foreign intervention in the affairs of Lebanon and Egypt's concern to preserve Lebanon's sovereignty and unity.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry under secretary today summoned the ambassadors of countries accredited to Cairo and informed them of Egypt's attitude toward the escalating situation in Lebanon and of the need for the world community to help end the bloodshed and preserve Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity.

U.S., SOVIET ROLES IN SYRIA-ISRAEL CRISIS VIEWED

NC071449 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 May 81

[Hazim 'Abd ar-Rahman commentary: "The Syrian Missile Crisis Is an Important Juncture in the Middle East"]

[Text] Available evidence shows that the Syrain missile crisis in Lebanon is about to become one of the important landmarks in the history of U.S. and Soviet diplomacy in the Middle East. Several indications prompt us to frankly say that this crisis will be an important turning point in the Middle East, like the 1962 Cuban missile crisis that marked the beginning of world detente and ushered in the concept that the United States and the Soviet Union could draw up their policies on the basis of avoiding a direct confrontation between them.

Naturally, Syria did not deploy these missiles inside Lebanese territory without the approval of the Soviet Union. Moreover, Syria did not keep these missiles and deploy additional ones without continued Soviet approval, despite the Israeli threats. Washington, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan personally, then made extensive efforts to contain the crisis and prevent it from taking the form of a direct confrontation between Syria and Israel. News reports say that the U.S. efforts are aimed at making the Soviet Union use its influence to put pressure on Syria while Washington used its influence to impose self-restraint on Israel.

These efforts, which culminated in the dispatch of a U.S. and a Soviet envoy to the area, frankly reveal that the coming agreement on the current situation in Lebanon will be a U.S.-Soviet agreement. Naturally, this means that the Soviet Union has exploited the recent events in Lebanon to establish a foothold in the heart of the Middle East, despite all the statements emanating from Washington warning against the consequences of the Soviet threat to the area.

As a matter of fact, Israel's adventurous policy is responsible for this serious development, in the light of which we can say that the U.S. Middle East policy is facing a real crisis in the real sense of the word. Israel has escalated its operations in Lebanon to the extent of striking at the Syrians there. This has brought the possibility of the eruption of a new war in the Middle East closer.

The United States could not leave matters to be settled by the local forces in the area. This is because the eruption of such a war would put U.S. policy in an awkward position before the Arab states and would blow up all the concepts put forward by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig on the question of strategic congruity [at-Tawafuq al-Istratiji]. Such a war would add more credence to the Arab pretext that Israel's adventurous policy is the source of the danger facing the Middle East.

Briefly speaking, we can say that Israel's adventurous policy and miscalculations have prompted the United States to try to reach an agreement with the Soviet Union on Lebanon. Israel's policy has therefore created a long-awaited opportunity for the Soviet Union to return to the heart of the Middle East.

It is true that we still do not rule out the possibility that Israel will launch a lightning operation against the Syrian missiles in Lebanon. However, this possibility has become very slim because the Soviet Union is not ready to lose Syria as a sphere of influence from which it can penetrate the area, something that could happen in the event these missiles are destroyed. We do not doubt at all that this [U.S.-Soviet] agreement will be an important landmark in the history of the Middle East.

ASH-SHA'B QUESTIONS AS-SADAT STATEMENT ON NATO

LD080815 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Apr 81 p 9

['Abd al-Ghani Sa'id article: "Is This Preparation for Joining NATO?"]

[Text] OCTOBER magazine published in its Sunday 26 April 1981 issue an interview with President Anwar as-Sadat in which he compared the Warsaw Pact and the NATO alliance as if Egypt is called upon to choose between the two alliances and does not pursue a declared and an unwavering nonaligned policy in its capacity as one of the founders of the group of nonalignment and peaceful coexistence.

President as-Sadat said that Warsaw Pact states are under Soviet control and cannot break away from it. He cited as an example Brezhnev's threats to Poland and the Warsaw Pact forces' invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. He compared this invasion and Turkey's closure of the U.S. bases and freezing of its NATO membership and also Greece's similar stand toward NATO following the Turkish forces' invasion of Cyprus. He then frankly said: "I personally am not at all afraid to join NATO. The danger facing us is the same. Also, the United States does not jeopardize the sovereignty of Egypt or any NATO alliance member state. Although France, for example, has no U.S. bases on its territories it will, in the event of being exposed to danger, call on the United States--in which case not a single French person would say: My country is under U.S. occupation."

What do these words mean? Is President Anwar as-Sadat free to surprise us from time to time with statements like this--such as his statement about extending the Nile waters to Jerusalem and unifying Jerusalem? Are there no people in Egypt with sovereignty over their land? Are there no constitutional institutions in Egypt to which the president of the republic must refer before making such bold statements?

I am afraid that in this statement President as-Sadat is following the same policy he followed in paving the way to the peace initiative and his trip to Jerusalem, when he told the People's Assembly before announcing the initiative that for the sake of peace he is prepared to go anywhere, even the far end of the world.

What President as-Sadat said about the NATO alliance is very serious and cannot be left unquestioned or without comment, because if these words come true it would mean destroying the policy of nonalignment, to which the Egyptian Government and people have been committed for decades. Egypt was committed to this policy even before the 23 July 1952 revolution as a policy stemming from our Islamic culture on the grounds that peaceful coexistence is one of the basic principles of Islam, to which all the Islamic countries are committed.

MAY CONTINUES AS-SADAT INTERVIEW ON DEMOCRACY

LD061543 Cairo MAY in Arabic 4 May 81 p 3

[Part two of President Anwar as-Sadat's dialogue with MAY chief editor Ibrahim Sa'dah on democracy and parties]

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat was alarmed when he learned for the first time the mistakes committed by the Committee for the Liquidation of Feudalism. He was surprised that the committee imposed cutodianship on ordinary individuals and simple farmers whom as-Sadat knew personally and individually and whom he knew to be loyal to the revolution and enthusiastic about agrarian reform. They had nothing to do with feudalism and the feudalists.

Anwar as-Sadat, who was then speaker of the People's Assembly, went to Jamali 'Abd an-Nasir to talk to him about the injustice that had befallen innocent citizens because of an erroneous decision by the Committee for the Liquidation of Feudalism.

'Abd an-Nasir was angry and asked As-Sadat to hurry and inform 'Abd al-Hakim 'Amir, chairman of the Committee for the Liquidation of Feudalism, in order to rectify the mistake. As-Sadat indeed contacted 'Abd al-Hakim 'Amir and told him the story in full detail. Speaking about this incident, President Anwar as-Sadat says:

I told 'Abd al-Hakim 'Amir that we could not remain silent over what is happening. It is most painful to allow injustice to befall the innocent, and the Committee for the Liquidation of Feudalism had wronged innocent people in Al-Minufiyah Province. The supporters of that committee--from whom the committee sought advice and consultation--were a group of communists who leveled accusations against the loyal inhabitants of the province out of revenge and in order to get rid of them.

Question: How is it that Marshal 'Abd al-Hakim 'Amir did not know about these communists, and why did he trust them and trust their information?

Answer: He thought that they were progressives and not communists. 'Abd al-Hakim had approved their work with Al-Minufiyah committee at the request of the centers of power around him, which comprised the Committee for the Liquidation of Feudalism. The minister of interior was the one supporting those communists, on the grounds that they were sincere, "progressive" socialists.

It would be relevant to relate an incident here which shows the significance of the game that those false progressive were playing. It happened that President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir came to visit me in Mit Abu Al-Kawm in 1965. This was the only time that 'Abd an-Nasir visited Al-Minufiyah Province. At that time the country was busy with the presidential election. 'Abd an-Nasir visited Upper Egypt and made speeches in its provinces, the last of which was in Al-Minya, 'Abd al-Hakim 'Amir's town. After Upper Egypt he decided to go to Al-Minufiyah Province to make a speech in Shibin al-Kawm. A ceremony was scheduled to take place in the afternoon, and 'Abd an-Nasir agreed to spend the morning with me in Mit Abu al-Kawm. We spent the morning there and had lunch at May House. Afterward we left for the celebration place at Shibin al-Kawm in order to make his speech.

On the way we passed by the entrance to the village of Kamshish and saw a big placard of cloth above the road. I read what it said and looked at 'Abd an-Nasir. He said nothing: I thought that he had not read it.

When we returned to Cairo after the celebration and went to 'Abd an-Nasir's house in Manshiyat al-Bakri we had Guevara with us, who was then visiting Egypt. I believe that it was the last time that the Cuban revolutionary was seen, before he disappeared, and nothing was heard from him until he was later found dead in a Latin American jungle.

In 'Abd an-Nasir's residence I was surprised by 'Abd an-Nasir turning to the minister of interior and asking him: "Did you read the placard at the entrance to Kamshish?" The minister of the interior stammered and was embarrassed: He tried to defend those who raised the placard by describing them as "good boys" and "progressives" and so on. "I do not wish to hear such a thing again, you hear that?" 'Abd an-Nasir warned. "Yes sir, this is the last time, sir," the minister of interior replied in fear.

Question: What was inscribed on the placard?

Answer: The inscription on it said that the Kamshish revolution salutes the mother 23 July revolution. In other words, they imagined that what had happened in Kamshish was as important a revolution as the 23 July revolution.

Question: Let us go back to your meeting with Field Marshal 'Amir to rectify the mistake made by the Committee to Liquidate Feudalism.

Answer: 'Abd al-Hami 'Amir approved of my idea. He told me: Go to those people and tell them that the decision to impose custodianship on them has been rescinded. They are your townsmen, and you know them and they know you. I told 'Abd al-Hakim that he, in his capacity as committee chairman, ought to rescind the decision. In fact, 'Abd al-Hakim issued orders to rescind the committee's decision that same day. The people concerned were informed that the custodianship on them would be lifted from midnight. This was the only decision that the committee ever issued and cancelled the same day.

Question: What was your feeling after discovering the mistakes made by the Committee for the Liquidation of Feudalism?

Answer: In fact, what happened at the time constituted a watershed in my thinking. I suddenly felt that what lay in my subconscious mind had begun to surface and form a big question mark before me. Accidentally, I was able to save my townsmen from the injustices of the Committee for the Liquidation of Feudalism. But who was to rescue the rest of the people? Who was to save the scores of families that had been subjected to unjust informing and accusations for no other reason than the settlement of old scores or personal hatred by those who called themselves progressives and who in fact were communists and opportunists.

I was again convinced that the only way the revolution's mistakes could be rectified was by the adoption of democracy. It is true that I advocated dictatorship at the outset of the revolution. However, I later discovered that dictatorship was useless and that the only solution was to adopt democracy in government. It is not shameful to rectify a mistake, but it is shameful to continue making the same mistake. Through experience and reading I learned that experiencing pain does not necessarily create hatred. On the contrary, the majority of the people who are tolerant are those who have experienced pain and suffered a great deal, whether unjustly or justly. I even believe that only pain builds man and that man builds his country, for he is the basis.

Question: Does this mean that we are allowed to change our ideas from day to day?

Answer: No, what I mean is that those who cannot change their ideas therefore cannot change anything. Here change does not mean that one should adopt one idea one day and another idea the following day. What I mean is that change must be based on the complete conviction that what was good for a particular time in the past is no longer suitable today and must be changed. Before and after the revolution, I firmly believed that dictatorship was the only way to rebuild Egypt in a short time. However, following the numerous mistakes that were made, whether out of good or bad intent--especially the last mistakes, which were made against the citizens, their freedom and their dignity and culminated in the harsh defeat in the June 1967 war--I came to believe that dictatorship was not suitable for this good people and that democracy and more democracy is the means to salvation and social peace.

Therefore, I changed my ideas on the basis of conviction and belief. I would like to restate that it is futile to expect good from a person who cannot change his erroneous ideas, continues to adhere to them and is afraid to change them. A person needs courage to reconsider his position and change his views when he discovers them to be useless.

As far as I am concerned, I have the courage to stand in front of the people and to announce that I have changed my mind on any public problem. When the matter concerns Egypt's interests and the interests of my people, I do not hesitate for a single moment in taking whatever measure I deem to be in their interest, even if the idea I had in the past is the reverse of the decision I make today. I have always been like that. Perhaps this is why some people accused me in the past of being inclined to communism and why others later on accused me of being inclined toward American capitalism. Who knows, maybe someone will one day accuse me of being a Zionist. All this has taken place because I have the courage to stand by what I deem to be good for my people and country. I was the staunchest opponent of the United States when it put all its weight behind hitting us and preventing us from developing our country. But when the United States began to change its policy and to understand our position, I did not hesitate to extend a friendly hand to it, exactly as happened when, having once believed that dictatorship was the suitable solution for Egypt, I then, on the basis of experience, changed my mind and advocated democracy.

Question: Is this the same reason which made you decide on the establishment of multiple parties, despite your earlier belief that one of the most important reasons for Egypt's backwardness was its corrupt parties and politicians?

Answer: Exactly, but this does not mean that I have changed my view on the old parties' experience. It is a fact that the old parties brought ruin as well as all the social diseases with which the Egyptian people were afflicted. When I decided on the adoption once again of the democratic system based on multiple parties, I asked the people not to allow a repetition of the mistakes of past experience. Personally, I do not approve of the methods practiced by the old parties, with all their rancor, negativism, corruption and treason. We must aspire to party practices as they are pursued in advanced societies, such as Sweden, France, Britain, the United States, Canada, the Netherlands and so forth. These societies practice the party system in order to build their countries and not to build their own party leadership.

Question: What is your assessment of the present multiparty experiment?

Answer: When I was convinced that we ought to have one view and an opposite view, you may remember that I proposed the idea of platforms to the people and asked certain personalities known for their loyalty and sound opinion, such as Dr Mustafa Khalil, to supervise a democratic dialogue to debate the idea of establishing platforms within the Socialist Union. The dialogue took place and debates were held at the People's Assembly under Mahmud Abu Wafiyah. All this resulted in an agreement to establish three platforms --center, right and left. I do not believe that there is a party system in any democratic country which does not adopt this tripartite division of center, right and left.

The choice of the platforms began in 1976 and the result was astonishing. As a result of following the election campaign, I discovered that they had carried out the operation along a completely party line. The center won the overwhelming majority of votes while the right and the left each got only part of the votes. It was then that I made my decision--on the basis of conviction, as usual. I went to the People's Assembly at its first session and told it that the desire for the establishment of multiple parties was clear before me, so why did we not call a spade a spade? In fact, we then abolished the idea of platforms and permitted the establishment of multiple parties.

However, I must now draw attention to and admit that the experiment suffered from mistakes which had to be rectified and never tolerated. It is tolerance which has led to further mistakes and defects in present party practices.

The important thing is that the experiment began and parties were established. I saw that the center party--Egypt--won the majority of votes. I told Mamduh Salim, then prime minister, that he should assume the party leadership since he was a party member and prime minister at the same time. I forgot to mention that we issued the law on parties. The law stipulated that the establishment of a party required the approval of 20 members of the People's Assembly. The reason for that was to prevent the repetition of the comedy about which I talked to you in the previous dialogue. When the 1952 revolution erupted, we were not thinking of abolishing the parties. We called on the parties to purge their ranks of corrupt and corrupting leaderships. We were later surprised to see that the corrupt leaders themselves carried out the purging operation. We were therefore compelled to abolish the old parties and open the door to the establishment of new parties. We were surprised when we received requests for the establishments of 21 new parties. You may remember the experience of the platforms in 1976, when we received requests for the establishment of 41 platforms.

The law stipulated that the signatures of 20 People's Assembly members were needed for the establishment of a party. Parties were established on this basis, including the new Al-Wafd Party, which obtained the signatures of 20 People's Assembly members in accordance with the law. We now have four political parties. It would have been possible for us to carry out the experiment in peace and in the general interest, had it not been for the advent of this new Al-Wafd Party. This party entered the new experiment only to take us back to the old experience with all its corruption. The new Al-Wafd Party came to destroy everything we had achieved since the eruption of the 1952 revolution. When the driver (Amru) came to visit me at the Al-Qanatir resthouse, you were with me. When I asked him about his children we were surprised when he began telling us about their positions--one was a doctor, one was an engineer, one was a teacher, one was on scholarship in the United States and so on and so forth. A simple driver, all of whose income was what he earned from his work as a truck driver, had been able during the revolution's time to educate his children to the highest levels. These were the achievements of the 23 July revolution, which the new Al-Wafd Party had come to destroy and which it imagined it could cancel out and take the people back to the era of slavery and darkness--the party was ruled by corrupt leadership. The new Al-Wafd Party came, imagining that it could settle old scores with the revolution.

Question: Was there anything to prevent the establishment of the new Al-Wafd Party?

Answer: This was indeed the question. No, there was nothing in the law on parties when it was issued to prevent the establishment of the new Al-Wafd Party or any other party, as long as the party could obtain the backing of 20 deputies in the People's Assembly and submit its application. This was what the new Al-Wafd Party did. It obtained the signatures and submitted its application and the committee concerned approved its establishment in accordance with the law on parties. You will be surprised to know that I expected all that happened with the new Al-Wafd Party as soon as it was established. I often drew attention to it and warned of what was going to happen.

In any case, the new Al-Wafd Party set about its mission. It wanted to go back to the same decayed values, the same malicious practices and the same methods which the people had rejected and against which they revolted.

I then found myself called upon to resist this grave setback, for I am responsible for the experiment and for its success and I will also be responsible when it fails if I do not act quickly to rectify its course.

I regard myself as responsible for the history of Egypt and not only for my experiment or for the July and May revolutions. Under the circumstances how could I allow the malevolents or the opportunists to make our country go backward? Can the wheel of time be pushed back--and how far? To before 23 July 1952 and to those black days with their corruption and miseries?

Question: How did the new Al-Wafd Party intend to take us backward?

Answer: With all the old well-known methods--biased rumors, false accusations, slander of honest people and attack on the revolution--as well as detracting from its gains, victories and all the successes it scored. I could not wait any longer than I did. As is customary of me in dealing with situations that brook no compromise, I spoke to the people and told them the whole story. I explained how the political leaderships which the 23 July revolution isolated had tried to make a comeback in order to corrupt, mislead and sabotage. I asked the people: Will you allow this? Will you accept that we go back to the past with all its tragedies and darkness? And will you allow those who ruled you with steel and fire--whom the eastern affairs secretary at the British Embassy manipulated and trampled under his feet--to return to the political scene? The people gave their answer: They gave it in the referendum. They rejected the conspiracy, the return of the slaves of the British occupier and the jeopardizing of their revolution, which had come to rescue them and save them from the corrupt partisans.

Moreover, the people also agreed that the old political leadership should be isolated. However, we must be fair. In last week's interview I talked about the experiment of political parties in the United States. I said that for 12 years after its independence the United States lived without a multiplicity of parties in order to preserve unity and social peace. As for the 23 July revolution, it did not need more than 3 years' transitional period without political and popular activities.

Today I will speak about what happened after the Civil War in the United States in order to see what the politicians did in the south. After the Civil War an order was issued isolating them and banning them and their children from political activity. In other words, they were banned for two whole generations. But we in Egypt isolated the corrupt politicians who conspired against the people and their revolution for only 10 years. We isolated them politically but we did not isolate their children and their grandchildren, as others did in other countries. The period of isolation for the decadent Egyptian political leaderships had expired long ago and for this reason we were unable to prevent them from applying for the establishment of a party and we could not object to their personalities whom the people had rejected, hated and isolated.

Therefore, I was compelled to reconsider the experiment. I was afraid that it might be undermined by this setback. I did not wish to intervene or rectify the experiment while it was still nascent. I wished the experiment to succeed, to grow, to flourish and to follow the same methods followed by the advanced countries I told you about. I was expecting young, clean, cultured and unblemished leaders to appear and to undertake party political activities. But unfortunately what happened was not what I had expected or waited for. I had then to intervene quickly in order to save the whole experiment from failure and from the fate awaiting it. I decided to go down to the street myself and lead a political party.

Question: Why did you not lead a party as soon as the multiparty system came into being?

Answer: I had no wish to engage in party politics or to lead any of the existing parties. As I have often said, the most cherished and dearest position I have assumed is that of head of the Egyptian family. Neither the presidency of the republic, nor the prime ministership or any other leading executive position is equal to my responsiblity as head of the Egyptian family. For this reason I did not wish to lead any of the parties. I would rather have remained in my position as head of the Egyptian family working for the success of democracy through a sound practice. This is what would have given me the greatest pleasure and happiness. But the errors and excesses committed in the practices of party politics forced me to take part in political action and to assume the leadership of a political party.

Question: Shall we go back to my first question at the beginning of this long dialogue, in which I asked you to evaluate the National Democratic Party [NDP] in the light of the present practices?

Answer: Ah, the NDP is at the summit of responsibility and in the peak of activity. It is true that the organization has not been completed at all levels as I wished it to be and as it should have been in the case of a giant party. But we must be fair because it is inconceivable that a party embracing such a great majority could be completed in 1 or 2, or even 5, years. Every experiment is subject to trial and error, but what is important is that we deal with the errors swiftly. What is most important of all is that we devote all our efforts to the building of the Egyptian man first and the party second.

I began a new experiment with our party's youth last Friday, when I met with them and the operation to build the Egyptian man began, from the letter A. I have decided to continue meeting with them every Friday until, God willing, I reach the letter Z with them.

I would like to begin building the Egyptian man first from within. Most unfortunately, this kind of building does not exist at present. Our youth, most unfortunately, is still susceptible to alien currents emanating either from those who exploit religions for unholy purposes or those who exploit the democratic atmosphere in which we live so as to distort and reverse facts, which our confused youth then accepts because it has not yet acquired the desired immunity.

Question: The charge that is being leveled againt the NDP more than anything else is that the party belongs to its chairman rather than vice versa.

Answer: The answer to this question is to be found in the history of world democracy. If we go back to this history in England or the United States, for example, we find that the history of every party there is associated with a leader. In the United States, for example, we read in its history that leaders like Jefferson, Monroe and others formed parties which became associated with them. We would also find that the most powerful parties of the past came to an end when their leaders' term of office ended. The same thing can be said about the parties that remained active even after their leaders parted from them. What is important is how a party carries out its activities and implements its principles.

Here in Egypt we have a party experiment that merits study and attention. This is the experiment of the old Al-Wafd Party. In our youth we used to support the party and we greatly admired its leaders and its fight against colonialism and the Serai [reference to King Faruk's palace]. But this admiration quickly dissipated when the Al-Wafd Party's methods in carrying out its activities changed and it made concessions to the Serai and colonialism.

The Al-Wafd Party, as I said, also deserves a thorough study. Why? So as to learn from this experiment. It is natural that a strong party should emerge in the country and should be enjoying the support of the great majority.

Before the Al-Wafd we had the National Party, and after the 1919 revolution, the death of Mustafa Kamil and the straying of Muhammad Farid, the Al-Wafd emerged as a great popular force. Had this party maintained its objectives and not compromised them nor made concessions to the Serai and the British, it would have continued to enjoy its strength and popularity, probably for hundreds of years. Indeed there probably would have been no need for the 23 July 1952 revolution. But what happened was that the people lost their confidence in the Al-Wafd Party's leadership. They no longer respected any of its leaders, and thus the party was completely finished when it erred in its practices. As I said, whether the party continues or comes to an end primarily depends on sound practice as desired by the people.

Question: Can we apply this to the former Misr Party experiment?

Answer: As far as the Misr Party is concerned, it belonged to the prereferendum phase. What happened to it afterwards was merely a correction of the course of the majority party. All that happened in the Misr Party was a change of leadership. I deemed it necessary for the success of the experiment to personally engage in politics and assume the leadership of the majority party. I did not launch my experiment from within the Misr Party. I decided to embark on the experiment by returning to our old political roots--the old National Party experiment. If we review that experiment historically, we would not be shocked by what is happening now. Historically, it is known that the credit for the eruption of the 1919 revolution goes to Mustafa Kamil, Muhammad Farid, Ar-Rafi'i and the National Party. After the death of Mustafa Kamil and Muhammed Farid, the party dwindled. Then Sa'd Zaghlul came and gained the support of the large popular base--the base of the National Party--on which he replied in continuing his political role. This story is being repeated by the NDP these days. This party has regained its legitimate position and its old popularity.

I agree with you that there are people who say that the National [Democratic] Party is actually the party of Anwar as-Sadat. Why not? This statement is regarded as sound historically. Why? Because, in democracies, the parties are linked to their founders. The people rally around the leader they choose and around the party he established. As long as this party observes the principles on which it has been founded, its popularity will not be affected whether the party founder remains or goes.

Our National [Democratic] Party will remain a giant as long as it meets the demands of the broad base of the people during the historical phase through which the country is now passing. I am very optimistic about the future of our National [Democratic] Party.

Question: Do you have any reservation about the opposition parties?

Answer: Certainly, I have thousands of reservations. I wish to speak frankly. This frankness might anger certain people who call themselves "opposition." I say that after an experiment, lasting about 2 years now, I regret to say that we have not created a genuine and sound opposition. What we now have is a kind of political adolescence under the name of opposition--an adolescence having all the characteristics of the pre-23 July 1952 era. We find that what is termed opposition nowadays is applying the same things which we rejected and hated in the past.

Question: Some people are saying that you advocate opposition while in fact you reject it.

Answer: The facts say something else. It was I who sought the establishment of strong and constructive opposition. It was I who declared that we need to have one opinion and an opposite opinion.

This is proven by the fact that I and all the members of the NDP who are members of the People's Assembly endorsed the establishment of the Labor Party. I personally presented the leader of this party. I expected the emergence of a strong opposition that will build and participate in building with its ideas and experience.

Question: Mr President, have you been disappointed with the Egyptian opposition ?

Answer: Indeed. I expected the opposition to realize that there should be no disagreement on nor opposition to pan-Arab aims. Those who imagine themselves to be an opposition have come to prove that they have no pan-Arab or other aims. To them, the matter is simply one of agitation, paroxysm, slander and the settlement of accounts.

Question: How do you view a strong, constructive opposition?

Answer: A strong opposition is the opposition of programs. The opposition party presents its idea on a problem that is being tackled by the government other than the national problems agreed upon. In other words, when a problem affecting the people arises, it is the duty of the opposition parties to study the problem and propose solutions to it. This has not happened so far. It is clear that the opposition parties' sole concern is to slander and reject for the sake of rejection. Take a look at one of the bulletins issued by the opposition parties: Do you find anything objective in it?

The funny thing is that some people one day asked the leaders of these opposition parties: "Your newspapers contain nothing but rejection of everything they see in front of them. Is the situation really as bad as your newspapers try to prove?" The leader of these parties replied: "No, but how can we be an opposition and not oppose?"

As I have said, this means that each one of them imagines that there will be no opposition unless he opposes simply for the sake of opposition. Is this what we have been expecting from these people? No. Never.

Question: Supposing the NDP becomes an opposition party, how will it deal with the ruling party?

Answer: If I were in the opposition I would do exactly the following: I would say that what has been done in the past 10 years in the view of my party amounts to national achievements that can in no way be opposed. Does the lifting of custodianship over the citizens call for opposition? Is the closure of detention camps something we can disagree about? Does the expulsion of Soviet advisers from our country call for opposition? The October war--does anybody reject its launching? The reopening of the Suez Canal--is it a decision an Egyptian can reject? What is said about these decisions can also be said about other national decisions that the people approved, supported and blessed--such as the diversification of sources of armament, the abrogation of the Soviet treaty in 1976 4 years after its signing because none of its provisions had been implemented, the 1977 peace initiative, the peace process with Israel and so on and so forth. I would not oppose any of these national issues if I were in the opposition ranks. They are all national issues which the people approved, were enthusiastic about and supported. How can I, therefore, stand alone and say, "No, no, no."

An issue such as that of peace with Israel was approved by the Egyptian people at every step and was supported with a majority of 99.9 percent in a free referendum. Why then should an opposition party stand against this overwhelming popular unanimity and say "no" to peace?

No rational man will refuse an agreement that returns 80 percent of his country's occupied territories within 9 months and the rest of the occupied land in Sinai by next year. On the issue of democracy, which Egypt is enjoying for the first time in decades, how can my conscience allow me, when I take up my pen to write, to denounce such democracy and deny its existence despite the fact that no harm will befall me as a result of the misleading and false things I write?

If I were in the opposition I would put all these matters aside and i would concentrate on researching and discussing how to solve the problems of the masses and would submit studied programs to the government for the solution of what it has been unable to solve. But to ignore the problems of the masses and to devote myself to denigrating everything big and small in the state would be political childishness and would have nothing to do with the strong and constructive opposition we desire.

Real opposition means expressing an objective view on the question of secure food supplies, housing and the building of nuclear power stations, on the condition that such a view is studied and is compatible with the country's future needs. A strong and constructive opposition is that which expresses its view on how to distribute the gross national product and so on. But slander and aspersion are something no fair person can accept.

Question: The opposition demands the restoration of relations with the Arabs. Do you consider this a constructive opposition?

Answer: Yes. This issue is liable to objective discussion on the condition that it is discussed with complete clarity and without beating around the bush. For example, can one remain silent over the attempt to isolate Egypt? Can one ignore the attempt to starve the Egyptian people? Can the demand to abandon the peace process find a response among the Egyptian people? The insults that the Arab leaderships and their mouthpieces pour forth day and night against Egypt and its leadership--can they create a suitable atmosphere for the discussion of the question of restoring relations? All these questions and many others must be subject to debate before we raise slogans and carry placards with resounding but empty words. We do not antagonize the Arabs, but on what basis shall we return to them? This is the question.

MILITARY INDUSTRIAL AUTHORITY CONCLUDES ARMS DEAL

LD080753 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 May 81 p 1

[Cairo bureau report: "Egyptian Arms Deal With European Merchants"]

[Text] Cairo--It was learned yesterday that the Arab Authority for [Military] Industrialization last month concluded an arms deal worth $100 million with 10 European arms dealers. Previously, the authority would sell arms to the Egyptian Armed Forces at prices agreed upon, and the latter then would sell them to other countries.

It is worth noting that the Authority manufactures small anti-armor--RPG--and antiaircraft ammunition the export of which is banned by the East European countries. Cairo sources did not disclose the identity of the quarters or the countries that will buy these weapons.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTS LEBANESE, PALESTINIANS

JN031745 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1545 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 3 May (INA)--The Iraqi National Assembly has reiterated its unwavering support for the Lebanese and Palestinian masses in confronting the savage treacherous Zionist aggression to which they are being subjected. In a message addressed by National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad to the world's parliaments and national assembl..s, the Iraqi National Assembly expressed its strong denunciation and condemnation of the aggressive policies of certain imperialist quarters in encouraging the Zionist entity to interfere in Lebanon's affairs and occupy part of its territory.

Na'im Haddad appealed to world parliaments and national assemblies, peoples' representatives and all peace and freedom-loving forces in the world to condemn the recurrent savage Zionist acts of aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, to confront the Zionist threats and to expose the Zionist entity's aggressive and expansionist designs on Lebanese territory.

INA REPORTS 200 ISRAELI TANKS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

JN072106 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2045 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Beirut, 7 May (INA)--Some 200 Zionist tanks have taken up positions in the eastern sector villages of the central sector in southern Lebanon. Arrivals from the border strip have told the INA correspondent in the south that Zionist tanks are deployed in the following villages: Al-'Udaysah, Bani Hayyan, Tallusah, at-Tayyibah, (Hula), (Darb ath-Thalathin), Kaft Killa and (Burj al-Muluk al-Hazinah). The correspondent added that the Zionists have also installed nine long-range 175-mm artillery batteries in the hills between Kafr Shuba and Kafr Hamam in the eastern sector.

In another development, a number of Zionist war planes today overflew the southern areas. The joint forces opened fire on these planes when they were flying over An-Nabatiyah and Tyre.

RAMADAN LEAVES FOR PRC, BANGLADESH 5 MAY

Departure Statement

JN052007 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, left Baghdad this evening at the head of a delegation on an official visit of several days to the PRC and Bangladesh at the invitation of the two friendly countries' governments.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that he would hold talks with senior officials in the two countries on promoting the scope of cooperation in all fields in order to guarantee a new starting point for the future of relations between Iraq and the two aforementioned countries. The talks will also deal with the political sides between Iraq and the two countries, the situation in the Middle East region and the development of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

Taha Yasin Ramadan is accompanied by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Muhammad Fadl Husayn, minister of public works and housing; Mundhir 'Uraym, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and a number of other officials.

PRC Talks

For reports on the talks between First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and officials of the PRC and on banquets attended by the Ramadan delegation, see the Middle East & Africa section of the 7 and 8 May China DAILY REPORT.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 329

JN071641 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 7 May (INA)--Iraqi antiaircraft today shot down two enemy fighters planes in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area. Communique No 329 issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command said that the enemy's other known losses amount to 75 killed and 3 infantry positions, 4 observation posts, 1 gun, 7 vehicles and 2 stockpiles of hardware destroyed. The following is the text of Communique No 329:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors. The following is the outcome of the activities yesterday evening and today.

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Three were killed and one vehicle carrying personnel and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Nowsud area.
B. Four were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
C. Five were killed and one vehicle loaded with hardware and one observation post were destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
D. Two were killed and one infantry position was destroyed in the Mimak area opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
E. Three were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Mehran area. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our units' positions in the Dezful area. Our units pounded the concentration, forcing it to flee leaving behind 12 dead. Our units also destroyed an enemy observation post in the same area.
F. Using their various weapons, our units pounded enemy concentrations and positions in the Shush area, killing 16 and destroying 1 infantry position, 1 gun, 1 vehicle carrying personnel, 1 observation post and 1 stockpile of hardware.
G. Thirteen were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Khafajiyah area. Our antiaircraft also shot down an enemy fighter plane at 0830 today in the Jofeyr area, south of Khafajiyah. At 0930 today another fighter plane was shot down in the same area.
H. Eight were killed in the Ahvaz area.
I. Nine were killed and one infantry position and one vehicle were destroyed in the Abadan area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 75 dead and 3 infantry positions, 1 gun, 7 vehicles, 4 observation posts, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 2 fighter planes destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 13 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: three vehicles were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 May 1981

AR-RA'Y CRITICIZES SYRIAN TACTICS IN LEBANON

JN070726 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 7 May 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Gate of Internationalization Is a Passage for Israel," the newspaper AR-RA'Y says: For years and since the beginning of the Lebanese crisis, Israel has wished to be a major and recognized party to the crisis and its settlement. At that time Jordan and all sincere Arabs hastened to caution against Israel's intentions and called for thwarting these designs and avoiding the internationalization of the Lebanese crisis so that Israel would not enter this crisis through the gate of internationalization.

For this reason the deterrent forces were originally formed to check the crisis in Lebanon and keep it away from foreign interference. This force, however, soon became a party to the crisis in favor of the Syrian regime, not of Lebanon.

At the same time Israel was wreaking havoc in southern Lebanon and doing its best to open the gate of internationalization in order to sneak through it and achieve recognition for its presence as a concerned party and a participant in the solution of the crisis.

Israel has finally found the chance it has been waiting for. It exploited events in Al-Biqa' in a manner that permitted Washington to enter as its middleman and agent in the so-called missile crisis and that consequently gave Moscow the opportunity to enter as a party supporting the Syrian side. Thus, the gate of internationalization has been opened from Al-Biqa', and Israel has achieved its presence from there. U.S. mediators and Soviet envoys began their moves and the gate of internationalization has been opened wide.

Whether the acceptance of the opening of the gate of internationalization was intentional or unintentional, the result is the same: The world's two conflicting powers have entered through this gate. Israel also has entered through this gate in its capacity as the client of the U.S. mediation. Thus, Israel has succeeded in gaining recognition as a concerned party to what is happening in Lebanon.

It is regrettable that the Syrian regime has chosen spontaneous and unilateral tactics, instead of united strategy, despite the dangers inherent in such a practice. It has thus become involved in the pitfall of internationalization.

It is high time for the Damascus rulers to understand that collective Arab action, within the framework of a unified Arab strategy, is the only way to confront the Israeli challenge. The use of tactics in dealing with this vicious challenge and the attempt to use tactics divorced from strategy is one of the gravest dangers threatening our common cause.

U.S. ENVOY HABIB ARRIVES, MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

7 May Arrival

NC071749 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] U.S. Envoy Philip Habib arrived at the Lebanese-Syrian border at 1740 today. He was welcomed by Ambassador (Khalil Haddad) and Maj (Husayn 'Abd al-Khaliq), head of Al-Biqa' liaison center. Mr Habib left for the U.S. ambassador's house in Al-Yarzah.

Meetings Begin

NC080925 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] U.S. Envoy Philip Habib, accompanied by Deputy Under Secretary of State for Middle East Affairs Morris Draper and U.S. Ambassador John Gunther Dean, has begun his meetings with senior officials. President Ilyas Sarkis received him at 0900. Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus attended the meeting on the Lebanese side. During the 1-and-1/2-hour meeting, the discussions dealt with the Lebanese situation and the implications of the situation in the region.

Habib is scheduled to meet today with Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan before meeting this afternoon with some politicians on the Lebanese situation and the proposals to deal with it.

SHAM'UN SENDS LETTER ON SYRIAN FORCES TO HABIB

NC071508 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham'un has addressed a letter to Dr Philip Habib, the U.S. President's envoy, calling on him to look at the depth of the Lebanese crisis, which, he says, has become a grave international crisis that is different in its danger than previous ones. Sham'un stresses that the Syrian forces in Lebanon are deterrent forces but occupation forces that must withdraw from Lebanon. President Sham'un says in his letter to the U.S. envoy:

[Begin recording] You have been sent to solve the crisis of the missiles which the Syrian forces have set up in Lebanon against the Israeli aircraft. We firmly hope that you will take a deep look at the crisis and all its aspects, and not just a superficial look, as we have been accustomed to from some U.S. envoys which came before you.

The crisis today is different from previous crises. The occupation of the Lebanese heights and the deployment of missiles have international and strategic dimensions different from past ones. However, this situation is basically the product of existing conditions in Lebanon because of the presence of the Syrian forces, which have undoubtedly changed from an Arab Deterrent Force into a military occupation force, causing individual and collective bloody incidents, shelling of villages, cities and the capital and launching a war of annihilation without pity, compassion or any feeling of responsibility.

Because of these actions, the Israeli forces intervened on the one hand and the Syrian missiles have been deployed on the other. The crisis has turned from a local one to a grave international one.

We hope that you will deal with the matter in a concrete manner, seeking to uproot the evil. Otherwise, the situation will continue and perhaps will become more complex, grave and violent. [end recording]

LIBYAN ENVOY VIEWS PALESTINIAN ARMS, ISRAEL-SYRIA

NC071345 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis received an oral message today from Libyan chief of state Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, which was conveyed to him by the head of the Libyan People's Bureau, (Ad-Duruqi).

The message deals with the developments of the situation in Lebanon and in the area and Libya's readiness to share in repulsing the outside danger threatening Lebanon.

The following dialogue took place between the Libyan ambassador and newsmen:

[Begin recording] [Ad-Duruqi] We are prepared to defend Lebanese territory against any outside danger.

[Question] How do you view the current crisis between Syria and Israel and the missiles issue?

[Ad-Duruqi] We view it as a crisis in the struggle between an Arab national existence and an imperialist-Zionist intervention to destroy our national existence.

[Question] At-Turayki [Libyan secretary of foreign affairs] said yesterday that Libya has sent weapons to Lebanon.

[Ad-Duruqi] This is no secret. Some groups of the Palestinian resistance in particular receive weapons from Libya.

[Question] You mean the weapons go to the Palestinian resistance?

[Ad-Duruqi] This is true, as far as I know.

[Question] Are the weapons to fight Israel or Lebanese parties?

[Ad-Duruqi] Ask the Lebanese parties. [laughter]

[Question] Is it possible that a state provides weapons to an organization in another country without the knowledge of that country--without the knowledge of Lebanon? In other words, you provide weapons to the Palestinians without Lebanon's permission?

[Ad-Duruqi] The presence of the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon is agreed upon and legitimate, I think. It is governed by agreements between the Lebanese state and the Palestinian revolution.

[Question] Even if there were agreements, the Lebanese authority is supposed to be informed of everything that enters its territory, at least.

[Ad-Duruqi] The Libyan weapons supplied to the Palestinian resistance are not shipped by Libyan transport means. They are provided to the resistance, and the resistance is free to transport them. We do not know where it takes them--to Lebanon or somewhere else.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, do you think that the crisis between Syria and Israel will be solved politically, diplomatically or militarily?

[Ad-Duruqi] As far as we are concerned, we hope that it will not be solved, except with military violence. [end recording]

EYEWITNESSES CITED ON SYRIAN REINFORCEMENTS

NC072027 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] According to eyewitnesses, Syrian reinforcements have been sent to southern al-Biqa' in the areas of Suhmur and Yuhmur, which are not more than 25 km from the Galilee panhandle. It has also been reported that Syrian forces have been sent to Kfar Tibnit, near An-Nabatiyah.

SITUATION IN BEIRUT, SOUTH, AL-BIQA' REPORTED

Security Situation

NC072051 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] The Lebanese Army positions on the contact lines are still the target of rockets and fire from medium weapons. Three shells fell this afternoon in the perimeter of the Syriac Pariarchate near the museum.

The Syrian forces fired B-7 shells at the Lebanese Army positions in At-Tibbiyah area. There is sporadic sniping in the commercial center area now.

The south appeared extremely tense tonight, following the exchange of artillery fire between border positions and Palestinian positions in Arnun and An-Nabatiyah.

Tensions also increased after reports about Syrian reinforcements entering the area of Kfar Tibnit with tanks and other vehicles. The size of the reinforcement is estimated at 7,000 men.

There is a state of real siege in Zahlah. The Syrian forces are preventing the entry of food and medical supplies to the city.

Israeli Armor in South

NC081026 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Clashes and exchange of fire from various types of weapons have been taking place in the commercial area and along the contact lines in Beirut since this morning. Four shells fell on the Government House perimeter, causing material damage. The relevant leaders are holding urgent contacts to deal with the situation.

Arrivals from the border strip area say that Israel is massing large numbers of tanks and armored vehicles in (Sahl al-Khiyal) in the eastern sector of south Lebanon. Israel is also bringing in more field artillery pieces.

INA on Israeli Base

JN052152 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] Arrivals from the border strip in southern Lebanon have confirmed that the Zionist entity recently established a base for military planes in (Tallat Amnat) in the western sector with the purpose of expanding its aggressive activities against the southern Lebanese citizens.

The INA correspondent in southern Lebanon reports that the Zionist enemy has equipped the aforementioned base with radar, encircled it with barbed wire and placed antiaircraft and antitank guns around it. The correspondent added that the Zionist forces had assumed the responsibility of supervising the roadblocks which were under the control of agent Sa'd Haddad's militia in the border strip, which extends from An-Naqurah to Marj 'Uyun. Zionist soldiers were seen setting up roadblocks and checking the identity cards of the passers-by who cross into the border strip.

KORNIYENKO HOLDS TALKS WITH KHADDAM AL-ASAD

Khaddam Meeting

JN071224 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received at noon today Georgiy Korniyenko, Soviet first deputy foreign minister. The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister Nasir Qaddur and 'Adnan Nashashabah, director of the Foreign Ministry Eastern Europe Department. It was also attended by the Soviet ambassador in Damascus.

The meeting dealt with a review of developments in the region and bilateral relations.

Al-Asad Reception

JN071901 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1800 today Georgiy Korniyenko, Soviet first deputy foreign minister, and his delegation. Syrian Assistant Foreign Minister Nasir Qaddur and Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin attended the meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, Korniyenko conveyed President Leonid Brezhnev's warm greetings and good wishes to the president. Talks then began on the situation in the region.

Nasir Qaddur and Korniyenko submitted to the president a report on their consultations on the situation in the region in general and the Israeli challenges in Lebanon, which derive encouragement from the U.S. stand, which is biased toward Israel. These consultations, which were carried out within the framework of the friendship and cooperation treaty between Syria and the Soviet Union, also dealt with bilateral relations, ways of consolidating them in the interest of both peoples and a just peace in the region and in the entire world.

The president expressed his satisfaction with the outcome of these consultations. At the end of the meeting, he asked Korniyenko to convey his greetings and best wishes to President Brezhnev and the other Soviet leaders.

MISSILES CALLED PART OF 'AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS'

JN081050 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1040 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Damascus, 8 May (SANA)--Answering a question by SANA, a Defense Ministry source has stated: Air defense systems, including missiles, are part of the Syrian Armed Forces and are present now and will be present in the future anywhere there are Syrian soldiers who need them.

On the significance of the Israeli intervention against the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon, the source said: The Israeli intervention occurred after the fighting stopped completely. The helicopters [Israel] repulsed were on a supply, not a combat, mission. In these circumstances, the Israeli intervention clearly shows Israel's wish to continue the fighting and obstruct the process of reconciliation contacts that have begun among Lebanese sides.

TISHRIN Comment

JN080751 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 8 May 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Leader Declares Syria's Reply," the paper TISHRIN says: The world is today talking about a crisis between Syria and Israel.

Some Western papers call it the crisis of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon while some world mass media consider this crisis as similar to the so-called Soviet missile crisis in Cuba. In truth there is a crisis. However, neither the form nor purport of such a crisis is as portrayed by the Western mass media.

The paper states that self-defense is a legitimate right recognized by international law and charters. Thus, installing the Syrian missiles in order to defend the Arab Deterrent Forces--which have been stationed in Lebanon in accordance with an Arab decision and at the request and agreement of the legitimate Lebanese authority--the Lebanese and Palestinian citizens and the sanctity of the Lebanese and Syrian airspace cannot constitute a threat to those who are concerned for peace, international law and the principles of the UN Charter. Furthermore, Lebanese airspace belongs to an independent and sovereign state, and Israeli planes have no right to penetrate, attack or cross this airspace in order to attack others. Thus, only those who harbor aggressive intentions against Lebanon and Syria and who disregard international law and the UN Charter can speak of a Syrian missile crisis.

TISHRIN asks: Wherein lies the crisis?

In the course of its reply the paper says: The real crisis lies in the Israeli aggressive policy, which has not achieved its goal of imposing capitulation on the Arab nation. It is the crisis of a foolish U.S. policy that seeks to cancel all the achievements of the Arab national liberation movement and place the Arab homeland, its oil resources and strategic position under the U.S. umbrella. This is the real crisis.

Despite all outward appearances in the region, the capitulatory trends in the Arab homeland have in fact failed. The U.S. onslaught seeking to subjugate the region and mobilize it behind the imperialist camp has also failed. Today, no one in the Arab world dares deny the threat posed by the Zionist entity to the Arab nation or accept the U.S. call for an alliance with Israel against the Soviet Union and the national liberation movements. In fact and in addition to the unanimous Arab rejection of the Camp David accords by the Baghdad and Tunis summits as well as the fall of the shah's regime in Iran, this represents a new strategic setback for the United States in the region.

The paper adds: The Israeli escalation of the tension in the region with U.S. encouragement and instigation is no proof of strength or confidence. Rather, this reflects a great disappointment and a real apprehension about the future. It is, in fact, a race with time.

Imperialism tried to use Israel to tame the Arab nation through aggressions and wars in 1948, 1956 and 1967. Parts of the land were occupied and setbacks took place. However, the nation did not surrender. Nobody in his right mind expects better luck for Israel now or in the future. On the contrary, there are many realistic non-Arabs in the world who believe that Israel has passed up numerous historic opportunities to achieve just and lasting peace and that it is swimming against the current, wagering on a losing cause in the region and throughout the world.

Israel might be able to carry out a fresh aggressive military venture, encouraged by the United States, in harmony with its aggressive nature and dependence on force as its policy. Who will pay the price of this policy? Hitler's Germany, before Israel, adopted such a policy, undertook numerous military ventures, occupied many regions and countries and fabricated pretexts and justifications to commit acts of aggression against others. However, where is Hitler's Germany now? Shouldn't Begin, the Zionist Hitler, learn from the lessons of history, the lesson of Hitler's Germany and the lesson of the glorious October liberation war?

TISHRIN adds: If the rulers of Israel are relying on U.S. support, they should keep in mind that the region is not a U.S. state and the world is not a U.S. monopoly. The balance of forces in the world is not the same that existed 30 or even 20 years ago. The U.S. rulers err greatly if they believe that their encouragement of a Zionist venture or their silence over such a venture or their hopes of exploiting such a venture might bring them closer to their objectives or help them to tame the region or improve their bad state of affairs therein.

U.S. responsibility for Israel's action is well known in the Arab homeland. Any U.S. involvement in a fresh military Zionist venture will result in a high price that exceeds everything that Washington has been trying to establish for more than 10 years. The rulers of Tel Aviv and Washington are making a grave error if they believe that they can intimidate Syria with their intimations and threats of aggression.

NATIONAL FRONT MEETS, ISSUES STATEMENT 7 MAY

Central Command Meeting

JN071619 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1610 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Damascus, 7 May (SANA)--The Progressive National Front's Central Command discussed at a meeting held here this afternoon under President Hafiz al-Asad the general political situation in the region. During its meeting, which lasted 3 and 1/2 hours, the Central Command also discussed the Israeli threats, which are backed by a U.S. stand that is absolutely biased toward the enemy, contributing to escalating tension in the region and threatening grave consequences.

The Progressive National Front's Central Command has formed a committee to follow up the situation in the region, particularly standing challenges and ways of confronting them.

7 May Statement

JN072053 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 May 81

[Statement by the Progressive National Front's Central Command in Damascus on 7 May]

[Text] Masses of our great people: These days we are facing a frenzied U.S.-Israeli campaign threatening Arab Syria and its people and sounding an alarm that is jeopardizing security and peace in this area and in the world.

The aims behind this frenzied campaign by Israel and the United States are:

1. To liquidate the Palestinian revolution and strike at the Lebanese nationalist movement. Israel's presumptuous forces have never ceased destroying cities, burning villages and farms and pursuing free patriots in heroic southern Lebanon, which is standing fast against the evil attacks and enduring more than is humanly possible in defending the land, dignity and Arabism of Lebanon and its solidarity with the comrades-in-arms of the Palestinian revolution's strugglers.

2. This U.S.-Israeli mad mobilization is aimed at striking against the Lebanese national accord movement, according to which Lebanon will regain its health and the fraternal Lebanese people their security and tranquility.

Following the agreement reached in the wake of President Ilyas Sarkis' visit to Damascus to begin effective steps along the road of achieving Lebanese national accord, Israel, the United States and their agents in the area started kindling the fire of sedition in Zahlah, Beirut and the mountain areas to wreck the accord slogans [maqulat al-wifaq] and to force the fighting in Lebanon to erupt again. After the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] had managed to put an end to this security disturbance and completely extinguish the fire, and after the national dialogue sessions started among all the combatant sides in Lebanon with the help of Syria, Israel attacked the ADF in Lebanon and shot down two Syrian aircraft transporting supplies to the soldiers operating within the ADF. All this is aimed at halting the march of accord and at preserving the tragedy fraternal Lebanon has passed through and is still passing through so that Israel may continue to play the Lebanese card to attain its objective of terminating the Palestinian issue.

3. The third objective, which is more important than all these mad campaigns fabricated by the U.S. administration in Washington and those of terrorism and aggression in Tel Aviv, is to stand against the steadfastness of Arab Syria and to wreck the will to defend and confront which is carried by Arab Syria with honor in defense of the Arab presence and dignity and for the sake of regaining the Arab nation's right for freedom and a dignified life.

Israel's threats, to which the United States plays the tune, are nothing but a warning of a new aggression against our people and nation aimed at the stronghold of Arab steadfastness in Syria in order to make the Arab will kneel, join the bandwagon of the treasonous Camp David treaty, liquidate the Palestinian issue and nullify the advantage of the national and liberation struggle of the Arab nation's masses.

These are the U.S. and Israeli aims at this stage, namely, to strike at the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese nationalist movement, the Lebanese national accord march and Syria's steadfastness against the imperialist and Zionist schemes in the area.

Struggling masses of our Arab nation: What has Syria done at this stage to make Washington and Tel Aviv--and behind them some hireling voices such as those of As-Sadat and some European countries--so strongly agitated? What has Syria done to make Israel so annoyed that its leaders are daily making repeated statements threatening war? What has Syria done to make the U.S. Administration so annoyed that it announced that security and peace in the world are endangered and liable to explode?

Syria has taken the first step on the march of reconciliation among the Lebanese brothers. It sent some air defense units to protect its soldiers in Lebanon after they were attacked by the Israeli forces. Israel downed two Syrian aircraft over the Lebanese mountains, and Syria sent its air defense to protect its planes and soldiers in Lebanon. Does this constitute a danger to world security and peace?

Israel, which involves itself in Lebanon, declares its guardianship over Lebanon's future and daily attacks its southern part with planes and artillery by land, sea and air for months and years without the U.S. administration's being disturbed and without its having any fears for peace.

But when Arab Syria sends some missiles to protect its planes against the Israelis' attacks and when these attacks really take place and they shoot down two of our aircraft, the United States is disturbed and begins to fear for world peace. The logic of the imperialists, of imperialist bullying and arrogance, is understood by the struggling people in Asia, Africa and Latin America and by all people who struggle to obtain their freedom and independence.

The belittling and deceiving of people are unacceptable acts in our age, yet the United States shamelessly declares that the real threat to the Arab nation is emanating from the USSR and the Middle East problem is a secondary issue. The U.S. secretary of state comes to the region, disdains the minds of its sons and declares, without caring about logic or respect for the people's minds, that he is alerting the region to the eminent and permanent Soviet danger. He does not allow himself to consider Israel's presence and its continuous aggression for more than 30 years, a danger threatening the sons of the region and its existence and future.

We say loudly that the greatest danger lies in you imperialists. The real danger to our people, nation and region is the danger of the imperialist, expansionist and aggressive Israeli presence. It is the danger of your direct intervention in our region and your absolute support for our enemy. This is the real danger to our people and our nation. The USSR is a friend to the Arabs, Syria and the Palestinian issue. It is with our security, freedom and steadfastness in the face of our enemies.

Heroic Syrian people! It appears that the United States has not understood you for what you are. The United States and Israel have forgotten the patriotism of the great Syrian Arab people, who have dedicated themselves to the cause of the Arab liberation struggle since the outset of this century and are still shouldering their pan-Arab and liberation responsibilities despite their sacrifices and burdens.

The brave people of Syria will not allow the aggressor to carry out its aggression. They will, as always, stand patriotic, pan-Arab and brave with cemented ranks, hoisting their banners and ready to offer all sacrifices to defend the homeland and have the upper hand. The Syrian people are brave. They are not frightened of threats or of aggression and are determined to remain steadfast until the last of their sons. This is an historic responsibility and is our people's fate--the fate they have accepted and adhered to for dozens of years.

In the name of our people, our Progressive National Front, our workers and peasants, our hero-soldiers, our women, men and sons, we strongly and loudly say that we will confront the aggression regardless of the price we pay. We will not be afraid of Israel, the United States or any other force upon the face of the earth. We will stand proudly and bravely to defend the dignity of the people and the homeland and confront any aggression. Our brave army and our proud people under struggler comrade Hafiz al-Asad are ready to face all contingencies. We will be armed with caution and alertness against all eventualities to confront and foil them forever.

Greetings to our brave people, greetings to our brave armed forces and greetings to all those who stand with us and back our cause and our just struggle to defend our national independence. May the goals of our nation in unity, freedom and socialism come true.

[Signed] The Central Command of the Progressive National Front, 7 May 1981

PRESIDENT RECEIVES 'ARAFAT, OTHER PALESTINIANS

JN080535 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Damascus--At 2300 yesterday President Hafiz al-Asad received Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman; Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council; and Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee. The meeting was attended by Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister.

The results of Yasir 'Arafat's visits to several Arab capitals during the past 2 days were assessed. The latest developments in the region; the Israeli threats against Syria; the Palestinian revolution and the national elements in Lebanon; and the requisites for steadfastness and confrontation of these threats were also reviewed.

MECHANIZED UNIT HOLDS LIVE-FIRE TACTICAL EXERCISE

JN061437 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 May 81

[Text] Under the direction of Lt Gen Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the army and armed forces, one of our fighting mechanized units carried out a live-fire tactical exercise. All the land weapons were used in the exercise. The implementation of the tactical exercise was attended by the major general in command of training the army and armed forces and by top command officers.

The exercise began with a detailed explanation given by the exercise director on the stages of implementation, the present fighting situation, the defensive battle to be implemented and the expected offensive. He clarified all the hypothetical possibilities in the implementation process. The major general, officers and spectators then watched the proceedings of the exercise in its various stages.

All the weapons in the exercise accomplished their scheduled tasks and scored direct hits on the targets specified. The formation units carried out their counter-offensives on the mock enemy units, inflicting heavy losses on these units. Then they occupied the positions specified for them in the depth of the enemy's defenses.

At the conclusion of the exercise the major general in command of training praised the management and implementation of the exercise. He called on everyone to continue training so that a continuously high level of fighting preparedness will be achieved. The homeland will thus be protected and the Arab masses' aspirations of victory and liberation will be achieved.

AL-BA'TH: U.S. HAS 'NOTHING NEW OR USEFUL' TO SAY

JN081027 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Damascus, 8 May (SANA)--In its comment today, AL-BA'TH says that the United States--with all its various administrations and political envoys to the Middle East--can say nothing new or useful that would solve the original crisis resulting from the Zionist entity's presence and schemes in the Arab region and the other crises resulting from this abnormal and dangerous presence.

The paper adds that the United States cannot be trusted in any dialogue pertaining to this basic crisis and its ramifications--at least where we Arabs are concerned--since the United States lost independent and neutral decisionmaking long ago, as manifested in more than one war, in its sophisticated planes and tanks, and in its political and propaganda uproar, which is associated with and in defense of the Zionist interest.

AL-BA'TH wonders what the United States can say today, through its new administration and new envoy in the region, on the crisis recently fabricated by Israel in the Lebanese arena at the U.S. designation and with its encouragement.

From what premise has the new U.S. envoy come to us and under what slogan? Is it from the briefcase of Camp David and its distorted vision of the realities of the struggle in the region? Is it from the premise of a warning, which Syria has already determined to reject and foil on the Arab doorstep? Or does the United States want us to withdraw from Lebanon so as not to disturb the Israeli planes as they fire their shells at Lebanese citizens? Has the theory of security in the U.S. political course become so submissive to the Zionist mood?

The paper concludes by affirming: Our people, who heed all political opinions far and near, including U.S. opinion, on the historical and transient crises in their struggle with the major enemy in Tel Aviv, will not allow anything to divert them from waging their battle as they desire, in accordance with the decision that suits them, and in harmony with the Arabs 'interest and issue.'

MENAHEM BEGIN GRANTS INDEPENDENCE DAY INTERVIEW

TA071400 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1103 GMT 7 May 81

[Interview on the occasion of Independence Day with Prime Minister Menahem Begin by Arye Golan and Razi Barqay--recorded; time and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Barqay] Mr Prime Minister, a happy Independence Day to you. We are conducting the traditional interview with you, the traditional interview for Independence Day. But, of course, we cannot avoid questions involved with the matters of the moment. The first question we would like to ask you is: What chance do you see of a peaceful solution to the crisis on the northern border?

[Begin] There is a chance that the problem will be solved either peacefully or in other ways. The United States of America has been making efforts ever since we appealed to it, during the terrible shelling of Zahlah and the killing of dozens of men, women and children in both Beirut and Zahlah, to do something to stop that massacre. Since then the United States has not stopped its efforts. They have really moved heaven and Earth. They are appealing to every country from which it is possible to expect some sort of aid. When I read the list of the countries I found, among the others, Abu Dhabi, and I asked the U.S. ambassador: Is that the power to whom you are appealing and asking for help? He said: It is not a power but they have money. Well, that is also an answer these days--perhaps as far as Syria is concerned. In brief, they appealed to everyone and, in the end, also to the Soviet Union. These efforts must be praised and we must also admire them; but, up to this moment, all those efforts have been in vain. They have not produced any result. Therefore I said that the United States is still continuing with the efforts. A miracle could happen. According to the reports I have, it is only if there is a miracle that the problem will be solved with an agreement and the Syrians will remove the SAM-6 missiles, that is, surface-to-air missiles, and they will go down from Sannin hill. But traditionally we do not rely on miracles, so we really are not relying on one.

[Golan] That is to say, sir...

[Begin] That is to say: if this dispute is not solved through the diplomatic efforts by the United States and by many other countries, we will not be able to tolerate, under any circumstances, the positioning of those missiles on Lebanese territory and we will do what we have to do.

[Golan] You are in fact saying that it is only if there is a miracle that military confrontation between Israel and Syria will be avoided?

[Begin] That is not so. We certainly want to avoid a general confrontation with Syria and I am convinced that we will avoid it, too. The reasons are very simple. We do not want a war with Syria and it is my impression that the Syrians have many reasons not to want a war with us. They cannot, in such a war, gain anything except a downfall. I say this absolutely straightforwardly. And I think that Mr al-Asad knows this. It is true that he is playing with prestige; he is even in a good mood now, according to our reports. Why? He says that As-Sadat betrayed the Arabs. He made a peace treaty with Israel. Afterward, Iraq has been busy with the war with Iran. Jordan is standing aside. So who is fighting for those who are called Palestinians, who is fighting for the Arabs? Damascus. Damascus has always, even in the 19th century, aspired to being the center of Arabness in the Middle East and now we have the impression that at last it has returned to being the center. That is a mistaken impression. It is an optical illusion, but that is Mr al-Asad's subjective feeling. So, with all the blows he has already received, he feels very good.

Here he is, fighting for the Arab issue, and all the others are standing aside and so on. But a general war, if it breaks out between us and Syria--he knows the balance of forces between us. Thus, since we do not want a war with Syria and the Syrians have very definite reasons not to want a war with us, nobody needs to speak about confrontation. There is no confrontation. But the problem of the missiles is a separate, unique problem which must be solved, and it will be solved.

[Barqay] Will Israel agree--in return for the withdrawal of the Syrian missiles--to lessen, to decrease its military-aerial activity inside Lebanese airspace?

[Begin] I have heard that report. I have never heard a greater distortion than that. Such a thing has not even been mentioned. I have President Reagan's letter. There is not the slightest hint of that in it. Nobody is talking of this, nobody is thinking about it. Why should we believe this? What are we doing in Lebanon? We are flying. We have to fly over Lebanon in order to photograph because there is a Syrian Army of conquest in Lebanon. There is the terrorist organization that plans the murder of Jews every day, every hour of the day. So, if we did not fly there or if we did not fly, we would not know what they are plotting against us and we would be jeopardizing our people. We will not put our people in danger under any circumstances. We will guard our people with all our might. That is our life's mission. And so, what sort of a return is that? They must simply bring back the status quo ante. On this matter we have full understanding with the United States; it has even been openly expressed.

[Barqay] That is to say, the United States is not demanding any compensation from us?

[Begin] There are no demands, none whatsoever. Someone sat at home and began sucking his fingers--I do not know which one of them--and produced such a report. He had better return it to his finger.

[Golan] In retrospect, has not the downing of the two helicopters given the Syrians an excuse to station missiles there and raise tension?

[Begin] My friend, our operation against the helicopters saved the Christians in northern Lebanon from collapsing. The Christians in Lebanon were standing on the verge of collapse. We heard this from the horse's mouth. We received this report first-hand. Had we not acted that day, who knows whether there would not be a Christian element in Beirut and northern Lebanon? The fact that Al-Asad introduced the missiles in the wake of the downing of our two planes [as heard] is not at all related to the reason for the shooting down of the helicopters. What were these helicopters doing? They overflew the mountain, killed the Christians and wanted to take over the entire mountain ridge. This was the Syrians' primary strategic goal. Under no circumstances could we have allowed it. We downed them. Had we been able to shoot down 10 helicopters we would also do it. The Syrians stopped their flights. To go and look for them somewhere near Damascus would be undesirable and we have not thought of it.

Please note that this Israeli action produced extraordinary results. We are not only happy about it, we are proud about it. We saved an entire group of more than 1 million people--they are a minority today--from the danger of being annihilated. Some of them would have fled overseas, part of them would have fled to the mountains and the vast majority would probably have lifted their hands and surrendered.

[Golan] Was it no longer possible to make do with the principle that we help the Christians to help themselves?

[Begin] We have always helped the Christians help themselves. However, there came a certain moment when the Syrian regular army attacked them with heavy Soviet cannons with a range of 40 km--some of the heaviest cannons in the world--with tanks and missiles. Houses collapsed into piles of cards. People were buried under the debris. This was terrible. This horror was depicted by As-Sadat in his speech on the occasion of 1 May and that is exactly what he said, that was the situation.

So the time came when it was no longer possible for us not to intervene. It was our duty to intervene for the sake of the Christians and their salvation. I told my colleagues, both friend and foe, at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee: You should know that a Zionist--thank God I have been a Zionist since the age of 10 when I joined the Hashomer Hatza'ir [Zionist youth movement]; it has been a long time--a Zionist is not averse to any humanitarian issue. Herzl wrote that if a Jewish state were to be established it would help the blacks of Africa obtain their liberation. One could have asked, especially in those days when France, Great Britain, Italy and Germany were still superpowers: What are the blacks of Africa to us? However, Zionism is a concept, a humane ideal. When the Christians were on the verge of being annihilated it was our moral duty to help them. I do not want to deny this--it clearly was in our own interest. Were the Syrians to take over Lebanon, we would be swept away in a pincer movement, both by Syria proper--as you sabras say, from Syria proper [last two words in English], and the Galilee panhandle would be under a constant threat of bloodshed. Look at the dangers that laid in store for us--we removed them. However, the problem has not yet been solved regarding those missiles that pose a potential threat to the very existence of our flights. These flights are for peaceful purposes, in order to learn what is happening beyond our doorstep.

[Barqay] Mr Begin, allow me to stress this point. When you decided on the downing of the Syrian helicopters did you take into account the possibility that this move would escalate the situation, would bring about an energetic reaction?

[Begin] I must correct you. I did indeed participate in the decision-making. We do not make personal decisions. Sometimes I must make such a decision when there is no other choice and there is no time. In that case, I am authorized to do so and issue orders to the chief of staff. I will give you an example: one day, about 2 weeks ago, we received a report that there were two boats in Lebanon and 'Arafat's terrorists were at any moment about to move toward our coast, to land terrorists, take hostages and so forth. I told the chief of staff: Destroy them. I could not ask anybody because any moment wasted would have cost the life of our people. On that occasion I made a personal decision. Of course, regarding the [security] services, I carry full responsibility. I am not allowed to consult with anybody. I want the public to know this. I certainly participated in making the decision together with my friends.

You are asking us whether we did not know that this would escalate the situation and whether we took the risks into account. What kind of question is that? Risks are inherent in any operation. However, you know that, according to our tradition, sometimes the greatest risk is to sit and do nothing whereas security is created by standing up and doing--and we stood up and acted. I am certain that we acted in good sense and we prevent far greater risks. In life, especially in our region, it is impossible to do anything or to solve any problems without taking risks. Perhaps again in the future we may be required to undertake risks. However, they must be taken with good sense. There are people who call this the last tactics [last three words in English]. What kind of words are these? They do not mean anything to me. Simply, one should act with good sense.

[Question] Sir, has consideration been given to the fact that Syria is a client of the Soviet Union? What role is the Soviet Union playing now in solving the crisis, if any?

[Begin] Syria is a client of the Soviet Union, of course. There are 2,600 Soviet-made tanks in Syria, including the T-72--the best tank in the world today, much better than Mr Schmidt's Leopards. There are 2,000 Soviet tanks stcred in Libya for any eventuality. The United States stood passively too long and watched the developments in the Middle East. There are almost 7,000 Soviet experts, that is to say, officers and technicians as well as NKVD--or KGB, as it is called today--officers. There are simply spies inside and outside [as heard].

The Americans today do not think in the same way they thought 1 or 2 years ago, that is, that the Syrians play a positive and stabilizing role in Lebanon. On the contrary.

[Golan] Not even regarding the current crisis?

[Begin] No. Regarding the current crisis, during his visit here Secretary Haig reacted in the harshest possible way. He may have not reached the sharpness of my reaction to the stupid remarks made by Mr Schmidt. However, he reacted very sharply: the brutal attack which contravenes any international customs.

[Golan] Sir, a few minutes ago you mentioned Chancellor Schmidt. You very sharply attack him and French President Giscard d'Estaing. Are you not afraid that your utterances will bring about a rift, a deadend in our relations with the important countries in Europe?

[Begin] My friend, I have never been more satisfied than when my remarks were published in France and Germany and produced a little turmoil. I was very pleased. What did I do? Did I suddenly attack Mr Schmidt or Mr Giscard d'Estaing? Mr Schmidt went to Saudi Arabia and there he made statements which drove every Jew up the wall, including Mr Peres, who saw it fit to attack me for my reaction to Mr Schmidt's remarks. After a visit to Saudi Arabia, this man allowed himself--the German people have problems with, for instance, the Dutch, the Danes and with several other countries. As far as they are concerned the Jewish people does not exist. They do not have any account to settle with the Jewish people. They do not have any moral responsibility toward the Jews, the Dutch and the Danes and so on and so forth--and we are included in the so on and so forth. Was there ever such a horrendous thing, that a German prime minister referred in such a way to what the Germans perpetrated against us? Afterward, he said that Saudi Arabia is the most important ally of Germany after the United States and the EEC or NATO countries--I do not recall exactly. This is also a scandal. After all, a socialist leader speaks of Saudi Arabia as the most important ally after the United States. This socialist leader speaks about a country corrupted to its roots. A very wise U.S. statesman said: Saudi Arabia is not a country, it is a family. Four thousand princes and princesses such the blood of this country--and there is lots of blood. They hold $130 billion in U.S. banks and tens of billions of dollars in British banks and, generally speaking, they have billions. For instance, I heard the following story first-hand: A few months ago a Saudi Prince receiveed one check for $2 billion for the expropiration of land where oil had been found. He proably had purchased this land for a few hundred or thousand dollars. He received a check for $2 billion. Even if you live to be 70, will you have enough time to count $2 billion. Anyway, I certainly do not have the time. However, you are a young man and so I am asking you: Will you have enough time to count? One prince receives a check for $2 billion. Later, another check for $7 billion was received and it was divided among all the princes and princesses. Imagine, $7 billion!

This is the miserable country of Ahmad Zaki Yamani who tells us jokes about camels and mice. No wonder he drives a Cadillac but, in spirit, he is still living in Saudi Arabia in the 16th century. Therefore, all his analogies refer to camels and mice.

So, for a German chancellor to say that this is the most important country to us after the United States and the European countries and to fail to mention what the Germans perpetrated against us and include us in the category of so on and so forth after other countries and to even say that a Palestinian state should be established, since this is the significance of self-determination! And then to say that the organization known in English as the PLO--my body shakes when I mention this word because of the letter L, for liberation--those terrorists, that negotiations should be conducted with them! So, what did I do? I reacted to, and mainly to one thing: Look here, my friend, for generations all the enemies of Israel said that the Jew was greedy. I have never forgiven any gentile for saying this because I know the house I come from and I knew my father, who was murdered by the Germans. Was he greedy? I remember all the Jews among whom I lived. They were chaste people, tradesmen, carpenters, tailors, shoemakers. They would make a living with the sweat of their brows. They were the owners of wagons and were cartpushers. Therefore, to say that Jewish people are greedy is the greatest offense. As I said, did Mr Schmidt go to Saudi Arabia to kiss a princess? He might have been killed together with her, God forbid, had he done such a thing. He went to Saudi Arabia to make deals, for the time being not including the Leopards. However, there are other arms. [Schmidt said:] I will sell you arms and you will give me oil. So, who is the greedy one here? I did not say that he was personally greedy--I do not know him personally. However, from a national point of view, this is the highest degree of greediness.

Mr Giscard d'Estaing--well, it is known for a fact that this man does not have any principles whatsoever, only to sell arms to the Arabs and buy oil from them. I know this from first-hand sources. He is ready to sell any kind of arms, including the most dangerous ones, to Iraq and to Libya--even after their invasion of Chad--anything just to get oil! He does not care about anything else.

[Barqay] You have said that you do not mind attacks on the personal honor of Menahem Begin the man but you could not accept an attack on the leader of a state since it would be an attack against the entire people, against the state.

[Begin] Did I attack Mr Schmidt personally? I only referred to what happened between the German people and us and what is the situation now. Did I say anything about his qualities? Did I compare him to Shylock as the Egyptians did? He did not deserve to be compared to Shylock? Shylock was a very proud Jew. If you read properly the "Merchant of Venice" you will find that Shylock's character has been misinterpreted. He was a very, very proud Jew. What did I say about him? I did not say that he is greedy; I just said that he conducts a greedy policy. How did I attack him? True, I later said that I knew who sat in a certain room when the generals who attempted to assassinate Hitler were hanged on piano strings. He was invited to attend this show.

[Golan] Was Chancellor Schmidt a Nazi?

[Begin] I do not know whether he was a member of the Nazi Party. However, he was a good officer, a good warrior in the German Army until he was taken prisoner by the British. He has never violated his personal oath of loyalty to Fuhrer Adolf Hitler. He fought on the eastern front. I do not know what he did on the eastern front. Nobody knows what he did there concerning the Jews. The Jews were mainly annihilated on the eastern front. I do not know whether he was in [word indistinct] in Lithuania. I do not and cannot know it. I only know that he was a member of this army who received orders.

[Barqay] You do not get the shakes as other Jews do in the wake of the criticism your remarks aroused in Germany? Do you not fear that your sharp attacks against these two leaders will erode and make Israeli-European relations very difficult?

[Begin] I am not afraid of anything, my friend. If the same case recurs with another person I will say exactly the same things. I must defend my people rather than Mr Schmidt or the cowardness of certain Jews. I must defend the honor and future of the people of Israel. The things Mr Schmidt said are connected to our future rather than our past. He is making friends with the country of jihads. He has told the Saudis: Go on, help the PLO. The Saudis give hundreds of millions of dollars to this murderous organization and he, Schmidt, is encouraging the Saudis to do so. He said that the Arabs should be given a Palestinian state, the 22d Arab state. Please, go ahead, on these mountains of Judaea and Samaria. Please, have a look at this map. According to Mr Schmidt, we should be here, along this line, 8 miles or 13 km from the seashore and you [the Palestinian state] will be on the mountain. Just look and see: all Katyushas reach Tel Aviv-Yafo, Rehovot, Bne Braq--the entire country would turn into one large Qiryat Shemona. Mr Schmidt demands that we carry this out. This is an expression of immeasurable hostility toward the State of Israel; it might determine the future of the State of Israel. However, he will not live to see this.

[Barqay] We want to remain within the political issue. In principle, do you foresee the possibility of establishing a so-called national unity government? Can you envision a situation in which you and Shim'on Peres sit together in the same Cabinet?

[Begin] We have already sat together in one Cabinet, in a national unity govenment. I was a member of a national unity government when the late Mr Levi Eshkol and Mrs Golda Me'ir were prime ministers and we worked together very well and had full understanding. Regarding the question of whether it will be possible to establish a national unity government in the future: it may even be necessary to establish such a government from the po'nt of view of Israel's political and security situation. I will not hesitate to say so. In practice, this does not seem feasible, mainly from the political point of view. So long as the Alignment advocates the return of some parts of Judaea and Samaria to foreign rule—in my opinion, to 'Arafat; indeed we heard this from the horse's mouth, from Husayn, who said that any territory he would receive he would hand over to the PLO organization--we will not be able to jointly establish a government. From this point of view, a national unity government is unfeasible, however, there may be days when some such differences of opinion may have to be overcome. Then we will shove them aside and say: We will handle these differences someday and, in the meantime, we will unite and close our ranks in the face of a common danger. A sovereign people know now to do this. Then it may be possible to establish a national unity government. Today this seems unfeasible.

TZIPORI INTERVIEWED ON SYRIAN MOVES, MISSILES

TA080748 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 8 May 81

[Interview of Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal on 8 May; place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Tzipori, foreign correspondents in Lebanon have been reporting since yesterday about large Syrian Army forces which have been moved to the Zahrani River and even further south. In your opinion, have they actually seen those forces or only heard about them from various sources?

[Answer] It seems to me that these are only rumors. It is true that the Syrians do have the intention of reinforcing themselves but certainly not beyond the Zahrani and I am treating all this as rumor.

[Question] The Syrians are digging in and building roads on Sannin hill and they have again been using helicopters and bringing in supplies and military equipment to the hill, perhaps in preparation for another assault on the strongholds that have remained in the Christians' possession. In addition to this, we now have to deal with missile batteries as well, which place our airplanes in danger. Are these really the results we expected from the downing of the two Syrian helicopters last week?

[Answer] These were possible results, certainly. In the meantime, other than those batteries that have been positioned in Lebanon, all the activity is in Syrian territory. This simply points to the fact that the Syrians are very scared and if they are very scared, there is a reasonable chance that political efforts will bear fruit and we will really solve the problems that still remain, that is, the removal of the missiles and the calming of the cruel war against the Christians, in political ways, as such a picture and such a possibility is described. [as heard] What is being described, even on the Christian and other communications media and international media, is that there is for the moment calming down in both the Zahlah and Lebanese areas [as heard]. It is calmer than before the helicopters were downed. Thus, it appears that the downing of the helicopters, in any event, did not lead to a deterioration but stopped this and possibly has now given a chance for political negotiations between all those who want to make peace in Lebanon and the Syrians. Let us hope that this will bear fruit.

[Question] On the same topic, there is now talk about a dialogue with the United States and an understanding with it on operations issues as well. How did it happen, then, that Israel acted against the helicopters on the assumption that the United States would not object to this, and afterward it emerges that the Americans were very surprised by that action?

[Answer] First, I do not know what connection there is between the dialogue and the downing of the helicopters. The State of Israel is a sovereign state and its operational decisions connected with the lives of Israel's soldiers--the discussions and information--will certainly not be passed on. But, all in all, I think that the basic U.S. approach to this day--I emphasize, to this day--has been positive and it has certainly opposed the Syrian cruelty. The Government of Israel studies by itself such issues and confers with the armed forces, we certainly do not wait for the blessing of other countries.

[Question] Mr Tzipori, Israel has agreed to a certain amount of time but the Syrians are saying that they will not remove the missiles and they will even add more batteries and they are positioning missiles all along the route to be taken by Philip Habib, who is coming to mediate, so that he can see with his own eyes and be sure of what they intend. In your opinion, might this time frame not foil Israel if the Syrians use the time to bolster their missile batteries while Philip Habib is shuttling and exhausting the political moves?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the situation, as it has been created now, conceals many dangers. The State of Israel certainly wants to give political efforts a chance and I believe the State of Israel has never been more successful in this respect than it is now; I hope that they will bear fruit. Thus, the time frame, from a political viewpoint, is a contribution to the State of Israel, not the opposite.

[Question] Even if we take into account that...

[Answer] Even if we take a military risk of this sort or another, and I say a risk, not a danger. The State of Israel can stand up to the Syrians and the Syrians know this very well, even if several of their other partners are involved.

[Question] Mr Tzipori, according to reports, Syria has given at least one of the terrorist organizations antiaircraft missiles which are not inferior to those it has positioned along its border with Lebanon. In your opinion, is this an attempt by the Syrian Army to turn the terrorist bases, too, into a target which will be very difficult for the air force to attack?

[Answer] Undoubtedly. There are two countries which, from the aspect of aid in weapons, advisers and so on, are standing most consistently at the side of the terrorists: one is Syria and the other is Libya. It may be possible to say Libya and Syria. Of course, other Arab countries are also not standing back and millions or hundreds of millions of dollars are flowing from the oil countries, and especially from Saudi Arabia, to the terrorist organizations. They are trying to strengthen them. Will it help the terrorists? It will not. What it means is that as long as the terrorists do not move away from Israel's border and stop the attempts to hit our citizens, we will deal with them as we have dealt with them, with or without missiles, and we have prepared ourselves very well for all eventualities, including the balloons and the gliders. Our military deployment has been reinforced on these issues and they will have all sorts of surprises.

[Question] Concerning the matter of supplying the terrorists with missiles, do you have any confirmation of this?

[Answer] We know that the terrorists have always had shoulder missiles. There is the possibility you hinted at. [as heard]

[Question] Is this a question of more advanced missiles than, perhaps, the SAM-9 missiles?

[Answer] Certainly.

JERUSALEM REVIEWS EXPECTATIONS OF HABIB MISSION

TA080656 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Jerusalem is waiting for the results of Philip Habib's talks in Damascus and Beirut. The U.S. diplomat is scheduled to arrive in Israel at the beginning of next week. Arye Golan reports on expectations in Israel from this diplomatic move:

It is difficult to say that there are any particularly great hopes in Jerusalem with regard to Philip Habib's chance of persuading Syria to remove the missiles it positioned in the Al-Biqa' region of Lebanon. Only a miracle--let us remember that Prime Minister Menahem Begin, in an interview with Jerusalem Radio yesterday, said only a miracle--can bring about the removal of those missiles through agreement. Israel's position is firm: It will not tolerate the presence of the missiles and will work for their removal, in diplomatic or other ways.

At the same time, Jerusalem is convinced that the current missile crisis will not lead to a general confrontation with Syria; even dogfights with Syria and the downing of Syrian planes in the past did not lead to war, people here recall. Jerusalem regards the missile problem as a special, separate one to which a solution must be found. Prime Minister and Defense Minister Menahem Begin will undoubtedly say something in this spirit when he meets, apparently on Monday [11 May] in his office with President Reagan's special envoy, but Menahem Begin will mainly want to hear from Philip Habib what was discussed in his talks in Damascus.

Israel's position is known to the United States and is gaining great understanding from the administration; Jerusalem says that Habib must focus his efforts on Damascus. The latter is being told to return the situation to what it was before. Will Philip Habib succeed in bringing about the miracle and achieve an agreement between Syria and Israel on the issue of Lebanon? That question remains unanswered this morning.

EGYPT'S ENVOY SEES NO DANGER OF ISRAEL-SYRIA WAR

TA071824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada believes there is no danger of war between Israel and Syria because of the stationing of the missiles in Lebanon. The Egyptian ambassador told our correspondent, David Essing, that there has been an escalation in the political moves which will ultimately end in a political solution. Ambassador Murtada has already informed the Israeli Government about Egypt's position. He was speaking at a reception for the diplomatic corps at the president's residence in Jerusalem. He expressed his happiness about participating in the celebrations of Israel's independence day for the second time and also extended his warm greetings to the people of Israel.

BEGIN VOWS NO WITHDRAWAL FROM TERRITORIES

TA080751 Jerusalem POST in English 8 May 81 pp 1, 2

[By David Richardson]

[Excerpts] Ari'el --Prime Minister Menahem Begin vowed yesterday before a fervent crowd of 35,000 at this West Bank settlement that as long as he headed the government Israel would never withdraw from the territories.

"I, Menahem, the son of Ze'ev and Hasia Begin do solemnly swear that as long as I serve the nation as prime minister, we will not leave any part of Judaea, Samaria, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights," he told the crowd which periodically interrupted his speech with chants of "Begin, Begin."

Begin's speech climaxed a day-long programme of West Bank tours organized by the Likud as part of its election campaign.

Begin, arriving by helicopter, received an ecstatic reception. In his speech he dismissed the Labor party as "miserable monopolists" and said that the "frock coats that they had ordered for themselves for the next government will have to be put in mothballs."

Gesturing at the hills behind him, Begin warned that the Jordanian option meant surrendering the mountain ridge of Samaria on which Ari'el is situated--not to King Husayn--but to the terrorists and "Arafatistim."

"We want to live with the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el as neighbours with mutual respect, but we will not surrender part of it to foreign sovereignty," he said.

Among the crowd were numerous MK's, including Agriculture and Settlement Minister Ari'el Sharon, whose aide, Eli Landau, had organized the happening. Begin referred to Sharon as the "architect of settlement in Eretz Yisra'el" and to Ya'aqov Meridor, who recently agreed to serve as a senior Likud minister in the next government, as "my friend and commander."

Sharon said that the Likud established 144 settlements all over the country in the past four years and that he hoped that by the end of the next four years "we will have quintupled the number of Jews living in Judaea and Samaria."

LIBYA

STATEMENT DENOUNCES U.S. EXPULSION OF DIPLOMATS

LD071956 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Tripoli, 7 May (JANA)--The U.S. Government has asked the staff of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Washington to leave the United States on the pretext that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah supports international terrorism and exports revolution. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has issued a statement refuting the U.S. allegations and charges. The statement clarifies the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's position toward and its condemnation of international terrorism as can be seen from the stands it has adopted and international agreements it has signed in this regard. The following is the text of the statement:

Yesterday, the administration of U.S. President Reagan requested the closing down of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Washington and the deportation of all its staff. It gave as an excuse for this closure and the deportation what it claimed was Libyan support for international terrorism and the export of the revolution.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah wishes to point out that the U.S. administration's decision comes as a surprise to no one. The U.S. administration has accustomed everyone to its position of taking a hostile stand against all voices that rise to oppose its imperialist policy and which stand in the path of its ambitions in the Arab area and other parts of the world, paying no attention to the growing vigilance of the peoples of the Third World and their desire to determine their own future by themselves without America's custodianship and domination.

In deciding to close down the bureau and expel its staff, the U.S. administration resorted to feeble and unfounded pretexts which have nothing to do with the good relations which the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has been trying to bolster with all world peoples, including the U.S. people, with a view to realizing these peoples' ambitions for the establishment of international peace and security on the basis of justice and freedom.

The attitude of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah toward international terrorism is clear and has been reiterated on more than one occasion and at more than one time. It condemns international terrorism which does away with the lives of innocent people. Furthermore, Libya is a party to all international agreements on civil aviation protection and safety.

Before trying to level charges of international terrorism against others, the U.S. administration must remember the acts of international terrorism it has committed in Vietnam, El Salvador and Nicaragua, when its aircraft bombed thousands of innocent people, destroying houses and bridges and the basic infrastructures of these countries. The U.S. administration has also forgotten the policy of starvation and blackmail which it practices against the peoples of Nicaragua and other struggling peoples by imposing an embargo on the sale of grain to these peoples.

The U.S. administration must also remember that the production of nuclear weapons, the establishment of military bases and the stationing of U.S. fleets in the Mediterranean are all forms of international terrorism.

There is a difference between acts of international terrorism pursued by the United States and the support given to peoples suffering under the yoke of imperialism and foreign domination. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah does not conceal its support and bolstering of these peoples and does not see this as an act of international terrorism as the U.S. administration claims: Indeed, it sees it as a humanitarian duty toward these peoples.

The question of international terrorism is a matter which concerns the whole world and consequently its definition and determination should not be confined to the United States alone. Furthermore, the United States is not a custodian of the world so that it can pass sentences haphazardly and evaluate the actions and behavior of countries.

As to the U.S. administration's claim of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's exportation of revolution, this is a flimsy allegation since thoughts and principles know no borders. If there are some peoples that have adopted the thoughts and principles of the Great 1 September Revolution, this is a matter that concerns these peoples alone. We do not believe this is a matter contrary to international law or any international tradition that concerns the United States.

The real reason behind the decision to deport members of the people's bureau does not lie in the feeble pretexts claimed by the U.S. administration. It is due to the U.S. administration's inability to acknowledge the growing vigilance of the peoples of the region and their desire to control their own destinies and rid themselves of all custodianship which is imposed on them.

If the U.S. administration persists with its aggressive policy against people of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, their revolution and plans, then the Libyan Arab people will, through their basic congresses, adopt stands which can confront this aggressive policy.

AL-QADHDHAFI SPEAKS ON DEFENSE OF ARAB NATION

LD072316 Tripoli JANA in English 1515 GMT 7 May 81

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Tripoli, 7 May (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great al-Fateh Revolution, addressed the cadets of the military colleges. He referred to the grave deteriorating situation of the Arab world and said that if this situation continues to worsen, the Arab nation will face a fatal defeat and will probably become like the red Indians. He added that most of the Arab regimes are contributing to the Arabs' tragic crisis by their defeatism in face of the colonialist offensive on the Arab world.

"The American terrorism exercised on the Arab nation forms a strategic umbrella under which Zionism is gaining new grounds stage after stage, so that it achieves its targets in favour of a zionist empire to replace the Arab nation in the future."

"Jerusalem, in the near past, was made a permanent capital of the Israelis' after thirty years of the making of 'Israel.' This shows that the enemy has strategic aims trying to reach stage afrer stage to achieve a greater stage in the most important and strategic areas of the Arab world. These areas namely the Arab east, where you find oil fields, holy places, strategic sites, water resources of the Nile, Tigris, Euphrates, Yarmuk and Litani, partly usurped by the 'Israelis' and on their way to capture the rest."

"There is no barrier between the enemy and the oilfields in the Gulf, as the strategic areas of the Suez Canal, the Red Sea and Bab al-Mandeb Strait, are partly in the hands of the 'Israelis' in the process to have control over the rest," Colonel al-Qadhdhafi stressed. "From the economic aspect, what was used to be called as the fertile crescent, is now a target of the 'Israeli' enemy."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added, "The occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip became under the 'Israeli' occupation and Jerusalem has been annexed to become the 'Israeli' eternal capital. The Jordanian army is now fighting against the Iranian revolution on behalf of the Americans. Iraq has exerted all her efforts economically and militarily, on the wrong front that is not hostile to the Arab nation."

"When Iran was under the late shah's rule, who used to supply 'Israel' with oil, Saddam's regime signed a treaty in Algiers with the shah and as a result he gave up Arab rights in Shatt al-Arab and settled all existing problems then with Iran. But following the downfall of the shah regime the vicious enemy of Arab nationalism and the main oil-supplier to racist South Africa, and the emergence of the Iranian revolution, the new ally of the Arab nation and the Palestinian people, we see Saddam's regime building its forces along Iranian borders and fighting the revolution on behalf of the Americans."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said "It is very unlikely that Iran and Iraq will constitute an effective threat to the (Israeli) enemy in the near future."

On the grave Lebanese situation, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that the enemy is trying to create a de facto situation under (Israeli) control, stressed by the daily (Israeli) sorties in the Lebanese skies, totally ignoring the United Nation, the Security Council and the Arab nation. "When a foreign aircraft violates another country's air space, all the countries of the world, the Security Council, and the Non-Aligned Movement protest against this, but now they are used to see Lebanese skies violated by (Israeli) aircrafts. We are also used to this, and to us, it sounds as if some died of over eating in the Arab Peninsula." [sentence as received]

He said "South Lebanon is not any more part of Lebanon. It is under traitor Haddad's forces control, and the (Israeli) troops. Practically it has been annexed to the occupied territories. This is a reality because the lands controlled by Haddad's forces is actually occupied by the (Israelis).

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added: "The Palestinian resistance is now in the process of liquidation and destruction in Lebanon to be able to create a Maronite mini state as flank to the "Israeli'." Their objective remains the same: striking a siege around Syria and destroying her totally. And if she fell, God forbid, then U.S. and Israeli sort of peace will be imposed on the Arabs. "The Syrian front is the only line of confrontation with Israel, and should it fall, there would be no other ditch to fight from. Because Egypt has fallen now open to the "Israelis" Jordan can do nothing against the advance of the Israelis. Moreover, Iraq has replaced her Palestinian cause by a war against the Iranian revolution on behalf of the United States.

"The conspiracy is growing against Syria and the main objectives of the military operations in Lebanon are to Syria and deal a blow to her resistance and steadfastness as Lebanon is no obstruction for the Israelis to implement their aforesaid plans." [sentence as received]

He said "There is a great threat to the Palestinians because they are confined in a limited area at a time when they should be deployed all along the Arab confrontation line with the enemy. The failure of the Arabs to stand up to the colonialist and Zionist invasion, will encourage the (Israelis) to continue implementing the plot which will lead to a Zionist empire and Arab weakness".

Recently Western countries' officials of Britain, Germany, France and the U.S.--increased their visits to the Gulf region as a result of the latter's oil resources, in order to drain out the areas wealth.

The leader referred to the situation in North African by saying "If we exclude Libya and Algeria, there is nothing positive in this wide arena. Morocco's historic mission today is to destroy the Sahara's people and annex the Sahara as though it wants to liberate Palestine. Morocco is in alliance with all the Arab nation's enemies in order to crush the Polisario's revolution. As for Mauritania, it is seeking salvation, but conspiracy will increase against it to take it back to a condition of subservience to Morocco's king, France, America and all the forces hostile to the Arab nation".

He added "The Arab nation's part overlooking the ocean [as received] is being prevented from advancing despite the existence of a positive factor in Mauritania, namely the growth of a unionist revolutionary force in the Mauritanian streets which will settle Mauritania's future".

Pointing to the American march in Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman, he said "bases are being built day in and day out in these regions so as to have them occupied by American forces in the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and at the entrance to the Bab al-Mandab. These are strategic areas controlling the Arab sea and the Indian Ocean. American forces are advancing in these regions without meeting resistance. Sudan is today flagrantly declaring, in front of the Arab nation, that it is open to the American forces. The reactionaries and agents have become exceedingly and unfamiliarly brave and started selling the Arab homeland in the auction without fear or embarrassment, as is the case with Numayri, the ludicrous stooge, and as happened in the Sudan and Egypt which has become an easy prey for the enemy. Then there are the rest of the Arab countries where they have not announced the establishment of American bases. In fact there are a number of Arab states which are ready for receiving these bases, and there are a number of Arab states regarded as within spheres of influence agreed upon and without the need for establishing military bases."

He said "We should carry out counter-attacks on all fronts and by all means and speed up the Libyan-Syrian merger as an important historical and strategic step and a corner stone in setting up a counter-force to defend the Arab world and the very existence of the Arab nation. Exerting our joint efforts with Algeria and achieve unity with it or any other Arab country is quite important". [sentence as received]

He added, "We should offer every financial support to the Somali national salvation front and to volunteer to fight alongside it, because this battle is part of the big Arab battle against the U.S. forces. We should also back the Oman liberation movement to trigger a widespread revolution against the U.S. forces in the south of the Arab Peninsula, support the Polisario Front and volunteer to fight alongside it in order to spread the revolutions as fast as possible, [passage indistinct].

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi called upon the Palestinian revolution to accept Arab volunteers within its ranks and said "We should also back the Palestinian revolution with all the resources we have. Arabs should volunteer in the Palestinian resistance so as to create a greater threat to (Israeli) settlement.

"The Lebanese National Movement should be supported and backed by volunteers and arms, because it is a new section of the Arab national resistance and in order to make it the strongest party in the Lebanese arena.

"The Steadfastness and Confrontation Front should change to a counter-offensive position and include other Arab progressive forces which are ready to confront the enemies".

The leader talked about the difference between the traditional military and the military in the era of the Jamahiriyah saying "the former is divorced from political, economic and mass issues in general, and since the traditional system gives the government the monopoly over politics and does everything to isolate the masses and exclude them from politics".

He said: "The traditional systems make the military an instrument of obediance as they execute orders and die without knowing the reason", indicating that "most Arab governments are reactionary, fascist and anti-Jamahiriyah governments since the military in those countries die for feudalism and feudalists, and to defend the forces of exploitation which are the allies and the agents of imperialist forces and their extension.

In the Jamahiriyah the government which deploys all means to stay in power has ended and has been replaced by the people, the people's congresses and committees. The people now has the right to deploy all means for its benefit, therefore the military in the system of the masses must have a high degree of awareness about the national issue until this military disappears to be replaced by the armed people".

The leader also indicated that: "We in Libya itself have started to absorb the military institution into the people in order to facilitate the emergence of the armed people and eliminate the traditional military". He added: "The concept of the armed people is that death is not restricted to those wearing the military uniform, and no one dies on behalf of another since defence in the concept of the armed people is every citizen's duty, and the jihad is every citizen's ordinance, and the military who graduate in the Jamahiriyah's era must be psychologically and actually ready to defend their gains and defend their existence contrary to those who graduated before the emergence of the Jamahiriyah or in another traditional country where the military is forced to die on behalf of others".

AL-QADHDHAFI PHONES BACKING TO SYRIA'S AL-ASAD

LD072314 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1917 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Tripoli, 7 May (JANA)--A telephone conversation took place this evening between the commander of the revolution and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The two men discussed the treacherous Zionist aggression against Lebanon, the Palestinian revolution and the enemy challenge, which has gone beyond all reasonable limits. The enemy has gone to the extent of disregarding the Arabs, violating the sanctity of their territories and threatening to strike at Syrian forces inside the Arab territories--and then asking the Arabs not to reply to their actions, as though they had no right to defend themselves. The telephone conversation also covered the Arab cause in general and the need for all the Arabs to counter the aggression with all the might they possess, since keeping silent about the Zionist aggression against the Arab nation has become a disgrace to the nation.

The brother commander affirmed to President Hafiz al-Asad the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's firm and principled stand alongside fraternal Syria and the Palestinian resistance, the Lebanese National Movement and the Lebanese people. The brother commander also stressed the need for continued contacts between Libya and Syria, and the other Arab countries, and for Arab action which would put an end to this Israeli bluster.

LIBYAN STANCE ON MOROCCO EXPLAINED TO ARAB ENVOYS

LD071452 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison met at noon today with the brother ambassadors of Arab countries to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The brother secretary explained to the brother Arab ambassadors that the object of this meeting is to explain the stance of the Jamahiriyah toward the Moroccan regime and the political campaign which (?intends to carry out) in a large number of the countries of the world in an attempt to escalate its stance, which is hostile to the people of the Jamahiriyah and their prominent pan-Arab stances.

The brother secretary of the Foreign Liaison Bureau affirmed in this respect that the Jamahiriyah considers the current Arab situation graver and more important than any bilateral differences, and that on the basis of its pan-Arab concept it considers that such conduct shows that there are Arab rulers who do not think of or see other than their own interest so that they might perpetuate their stay in power.

The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison pointed out that the leader's cable addressed to Arab presidents and kings has met with a good response, since loyal Arab officials have begun their contacts with a view to confronting and checking the Zionist aggression against the Lebanese people, the Palestinian resistance and Syria, and against the Arab nation and its ambitions--whereas the king of Morocco is charging his government's envoys with the task of touring the countries of the world on the pretext that there are dangers threatening North Africa from the Jamahiriyah, which stands by the side of the cause of the Saharan people in their self-determination and which supports the Polisario Front politically and materially.

He stressed that the proposal of the brother leader regarding the establishment of unity between Mauritania and the Saharan Republic and the establishment of an alliance between Mauritania, Algeria and Libya stem from the pan-Arab concept of the Social People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which is aware of the dangers confronting the region of North Africa from the agent Moroccan regime, since its role has become clear as a result of its threats to Mauritania, the Jamahiriyah and Algeria and its repeated aggression against the Saharan people.

He said that the reason that the king of Morocco launched this suspicious political campaign was the exposure made by the Jamahiriyah delegation at the meeting of the Jerusalem Committee in Fes with regard to the role of the agent king of Morocco, who betrayed the Arab cause, and his role in paving the way for the visit of the ruler of Egypt to Israel, as well as his successive meetings with both Moshe Dayan and Yitzhaq Rabin.

The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison asked: How can a ruler who has contacts with the Zionist enemy, worked for the departure of Egypt from its pan-Arab responsibility and participated in the reaching of the Camp David agreement chair the Jerusalem Committee of the Islamic Conference? He said the Jamahiriyah challenges the king of Morocco to liberate Jerusalem. He explained that the difference between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco is a difference of principles and a difference in stances, and that there are no differences between the two peoples, and that the king of Morocco is considered one who supplements the role of the ruler of Egypt.

LIBYAN URGES DIPLOMATS TO OPPOSE AL-QADHDHAFI

LD070849 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 6 May 81 p 2

[Unattributed report: "'Aylah Addresses Appeal to Libyan Diplomats"]

[Text] 'Abd as-Salam 'Ali 'Aylah, the former Libyan charge d'affaires in India, has addressed an appeal to his colleagues in the Lybian diplomatic corps calling on them to resign from their posts and to join the Libyan opposition front which is seeking to topple the present regime in Libya. In his appeal 'Aylah cited a number of serious incidents that have taken place in Libya, stressing that the popular uprising against Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and his rule is mounting daily. This is proved by the coup attempts that have taken place and the continued ferment in the Libyan arena which, the author of the appeal says, all prove that the hour of deliverance is imminent.

SUDAN

PRC PRAISED ON FULFILLMENT OF MILITARY DEAL

JN061644 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 6 May 81

[Text] Khartoum, 6 May (SUNA)--First Vice President Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil has praised the solid relations between Sudan and the PRC.

During his meeting with the PRC ambassador in Khartoum, the first vice president expressed the Sudanese Government's thanks to the PRC for having fulfilled its commitments to Sudan by implementing all the agreements that had been concluded between the two countries during his latest visit to Beijing. He was referring to the arrival of the military equipment that had been agreed on and which will arrive in stages.

The first vice president asked the PRC ambassador to convey to his government Sudan's desire that the PRC take part in the coming round of the Khartoum international exhibition.

ETHIOPIA

BLAST DESTROYS RUSSIAN ADVISER'S HOUSE IN KEREN

LD080204 [Clandestine] Voice of Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrigna 0400 GMT 7 May 81 EA

[Text] A representative of the Voice of Broad Masses of Eritrea, reporting from the area around Keren, says that on May Day and for several following days explosive devices were detonated in Keren. The explosion on 1 May occurred in the area where the Russian advisers live, destroying one of their residences. The explosions, which continued repeatedly over 3 days, caused the enemy to panic and compelled the Dergue authorities to put all their troops on alert. Enemy helicopters have also been hovering over the town.

KENYA

OFFICIALS DENOUNCE NORTHERN 'LIBERATION FRONT'

Party Leader's Remarks

LD052204 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 5 May 81 EA

[Text] A few self-seeking and disgruntled elements loitering the streets of Middle East countries disguised as representatives of Kenyan Somalis should be treated with the contempt they deserve. This was stated by the Garissa KANU chairman, Mr Abdi Dahir, in response to a recent report that there was a liberation front seeking aid in Arab countries to liberate Kenyan Somalis. In a press statement, Mr Dahir refuted the legitimacy of the group and advised Arab countries being approached by the so-called liberation front not to waste their money on self-seekers. He said Kenyan Somalis are living contentedly under the leadership of their beloved head of state, His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi.

Mr Dahir said the people of North-Eastern Province are Kenyans and cannot be used as puppets by any other country or group. He said Kenyan Somalis can manage their affairs and they are not camels to be sold without will. Mr Dahir said Kenya is a sovereign independent country and as such, the question of liberation is baseless. We called on all Kenyans to live as one people and shun propaganda aimed at destabilizing our society.

Parliamentarians' Statement

LD071424 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 7 May 81 EA

[Text] The Arab countries, and particularly those friendly to Kenya, have been asked to treat officials of the so-called Northern Frontier Liberation Front as mere traitors, imposters and beggars. In a joint press statement signed by various North-Eastern Province leaders, who included the MP for Garissa, [south], Mr Mahmoud Jusat Ali; the MP for Garissa, Central, Mr Abdi Aress; and KANU vice chairman of Garissa, Mr Abdullahi Sirat, the leaders dissociated themselves from the activities of those behind the alleged liberation front. The leaders said that they were the elected representatives of the Kenya Somalis and no one else could pose as their leader. They said that Kenya became independent in 1963 and that all Somalis were happy with the democratic government which the country has. They termed the officials of the so-called liberation front as mere gangsters.

Meanwhile, a former MP for Marsabit north, Mr Elisha Godana, denounced the front for wanting to cede Kenyan Somalis to another country. Mr Godana, who called at the KENYA NEWS AGENCY offices in Nairobi, said that Kenyans shed blood in 1964-67 to fight off the shifta and were prepared again to defend the country against any forces. Thousands of Garissa residents yesterday marched through the streets of the town to demonstrate against the so-called liberation front.

SEYCHELLES

ACCORD SIGNED WITH USSR FOR ASTRONOMY PROJECT

AB080914 Paris AFP in English 0721 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Victoria, Seychelles, May 8 (AFP)--The Soviet Academy of Sciences is to set up an observatory in the Seychelles under a joint astronomical project agreement signed here Thursday, officials said. Land had already been obtained for a laboratory building which would be constructed soon, they said. Equipment will be flown in from the Soviet Union.

A memorandum on the agreement stated that the educational aspect of the arrangement would involve Seychellois students and not more than two Soviet scientists at a time. Data collected by the observatory would be made available to the public, it added. After five years the observatory would be turned over to the government here.

UGANDA

DEFENSE MINISTER MUWANGA DENOUNCES OPPOSITION

LD080234 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 May 81 EA

[Text] The vice president and minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, has reaffirmed the government's determination to assume its responsibility in protecting life and property of the people of Uganda, and declared that it will not abdicate this responsibility.

Commenting on reports about the press conference given by the president general of the opposition Democratic Party [DP], Mr Paul Ssemogerere, Mr Muwanga said the government believes that Mr Ssemogerere's outburst is a result of government success on closing in on the clique which has been responsible for banditry, terrorism and murder.

When the president general of the DP opened his press conference on Tuesday 5 May 1981, Mr Muwanga said he stated inter alia that he wanted government to appoint a commission of inquiry to probe into the killings of innocent civilians by unknown gunmen. We all know that recently three organizations claiming to be fighting for the restoration of democracy in this country, Mr Muwanga went on, have unashamedly stated that they have been responsible for the killings of innocent Ugandans and acts of sabotage against the nation. Only yesterday, he said, they made it public that they will kill any farmer who dares continue to produce and to sell coffee to a society or union. They further announced that they would burn all coffee and curing works which belong to the farmers. The three organizations which have sworn to kill the people of Uganda are: the Uganda Freedom Movement [UFM], the Peoples Revolutionary Army and Amin's thugs.

They are about to see all Uganda People's Congress [UPC] members dead. It is unthinkable, Mr Muwanga went on, that Dr Ssemogerere could plead ignorance of these killer-squads. The government will be prepared to appoint a commission of inquiry if the president general of the DP could bring solid evidence and reasons pointing an accusing finger after these organizations which have not only made public their intention to kill but have claimed responsibility to the killing of innocent Ugandans.

The vice president again reiterated government commitment to the restoration of security. He said the government has no vested interests in insecurity and is conscious of the fact that security is a necessary precondition for economic take-off and stability. This was reflected in the president's May Day speech in which he concentrated on the economic and social welfare of the nation.

Mr Muwanga categorically denied that there have been thousands of people killed in Uganda. He described the statement as inflammatory and irresponsible. But he admitted that there had been isolated incidents where these killer-squads have managed to ambush civilians and military vehicles killing the occupants and the government has made these public. And yet, Mr Muwanga charged, the president general of the DP claimed the killers of these innocent people are unknown. He said the statement of the president general of the DP is a very good example of some people in this country who are trying to fan hatred among different people in this country. Furthermore, he went on, it represents the case of selective moral [word indistinct] of acts of murder and sabotage.

He reminded the newsmen of the recent killing of a member of Parliament, Professor Muhanji. He disclosed that a county chief and a number of subcounty and parish chiefs and their families had also been killed. Recently a cabinet minister escaped an assassination attempt, and a UPC constituency chairman, Haji Musa Sebirumbi, escaped a grenade attempt which, however, claimed the life of the assistant editor of TAIFA EMPYA, Mr (Kulubya Chezei). The next day after the attack on Haji Sebirumbi, his lawyer in the election petition was abducted by thugs and later killed.

Mr Muwanga disclosed that in all the cases, suspects had been apprehended and in the case of the death of Mr (Kulubya Chezei), somebody has already been charged with murder.

The vice president said that it is important to know that it would be a fantastic coincidence to have the attempt to assassinate Haji Sebirumbi only to be followed by the murder of his lawyer. In all these cases Dr Ssemogerere seems to be unconcerned for they do not merit mention in his press conference, Mr Muwanga observed.

He disclosed that the president general of the DP had recently been invited to discuss matters of security by him but he did not respond positively to the invitation.

Mr Muwanga stressed that the government believes that the media is not the best way to discuss sensitive issues of national interest and most particularly when a small group of terrorists and bandits decides to defy the will of the majority and take to killings because they believe in their own divine rights to rule this country.

He said the two DP Members of Parliament referred to in Dr Ssemogerere's press conference were arrested after reports reached police that they were involved in subversive activities. These MP's were apprehended by the police to help in their investigations.

Mr Muwanga reiterated that in this country, no person, including MP's, is above the law and that police is entitled to request anyone in this country to help them with their investigations or may hold such people for as long as it is necessary.

The DP, the vice president stated, is composed of various groups which in turn render the position of the president general insecure. The first group, he said, owes allegiance to Mr Yusufu Lule who is a member, he declared, of one of the killer-squads, UFM. The second is associated with thugs of Idi Amin, and the third one is [words indistinct] which is closer to Uganda Patriotic Movement than to DP. In this connection, Mr Muwanga said, no wonder Dr Ssemogerere has found it necessary to appoint an acting secretary general.

Present at the press conference were the minister of internal affairs, Dr Luwuliza-Kirunda and the minister of state for defense, Mr Peter Otai.

CAMEROON

PRESIDENT AHIDJO BEGINS TALKS WITH GOUKOUNI

AB071914 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] President Ahidjo and Chadian leader Goukouni Oueddei are meeting in the northern city of Ngaoundere today to discuss bilateral and African issues. Today's meeting, held behind closed doors, was expected to center on the crisis in Chad, the Lagos accord on a peaceful settlement in Chad, the question of more than 250,000 Chadian refugees in the northern town of Kousseri as well as the repeated violation of Cameroon's airspace by military aircraft coming from Chad.

We now call on our staff reporter, George Ngoa, in Ngoundere for possible developments on today's meeting: [begin recording] Goukouni Queddei and President Ahmadou Ahidjo are having lunch today and a meeting at 1600 by a tete-a-tete at President Ahmadou Ahidjo's residence. Both meetings are behind closed doors and no one has been (?briefed) about details of issues being discussed. The two leaders have just ended their tete-a-tete and [words indistinct] except that President Ahmadou Ahidjo and Mr Goukouni Queddei [words indistinct] between the two countries. The just ended tete-a-tete could be delayed [as heard] as Mr Goukouni Queddei's departure from Ngaoundere has been fixed at 0900. No reasons have been given [words indistinct]. This is George Ngoa from Radio Cameroon news in Ngaoundere. [end recording]

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

FRENCH OFFICIAL SEES DACKO, COMMENTS ON AID USE

AB071617 Paris AFP in French 1430 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] Bangui, 7 May (AFP)--French aid should be used to benefit Central African farmers in concrete ways, Mr Philippe Ricalens, permanent undersecretary to French Cooperation Minister Robert Galley, said in Bangui on Thursday morning, after an hour's discussion with Central African President David Dacko.

Their discussions centered on economic problems facing CAR, especially the question on provincial administration which has previously been neglected, Mr Ricalens said.

Continuing, Mr Ricalens said the CAR has returned to normal.

The country has elected its president, so we can now begin to work with the CAR on a different basis--that is on a normalized basis--just as we do with other African countries, the French Government envoy added.

Mr Robert Galley's permanent undersecretary, who is on a 4-day visit to the CAR, will inquire about how French aid is being used, through various development projects.

Mr Ricalens also met French assistants working in Bangui on Thursday. He will go to Bouar, 450 km west of Bangui where about 1,000 French soldiers are stationed, on Thursday afternoon. On Friday he will visit the main Carnot-Berberati Road being financed by the French Aid and Cooperation Fund (FAC).

Mr Ricalens is also scheduled to hold a series of meetings with various ministerial department officials including the Ministries of National Education, Health, Equipment, Transport as well as the Ministries of Information, Post and Telecommunications.

Mr Ricalens returns to Paris on Sunday.

LIBERIA

DOE RELEASES THREE FORMER TOLBERT OFFICIALS

AB062020 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 6 May 81

[Text] To mark his 30th birth anniversary, the chairman of the People's Redemption Council [PRC], Master Sergeant Doe, has announced the release of three officials of the ousted Tolbert government from further detention at the central prison in Monrovia. The three are Generals Daniel Warner and Sylvester Thomas, former aides-de-camp to the late William Tolbert, as well as Maj Gen Jehu Brandy, former assistant minister of defense for coastal affairs.

The head of state admonished the three former officials, who were detained after the April 12 coup, to contribute to the development of the country and told them to feel free and be proud of the nation. Speaking on behalf of himself and his colleagues, the former assistant minister, Jehu Brandy, thanked Master Sergeant Doe for releasing them and pledged their support and cooperation with the PRC.

NIGERIA

KADUNA GOVERNOR REFUSES COMMENT ON IMPEACHMENT

AB080952 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Governor Abdulkadir Balarabe Musa of Kaduna State has said he will not comment on the notice of impeachment served on him yesterday since the issue is in the high court. He, however, said that the petition handed over by the House of Assembly [word indistinct] Mallam Ibrahim Funtua, did not come up as a surprise because of the utterances and actions of some legislators.

The notice of charges against the governor signed by 69 members was read to the house by the majority leader Al-Haji Dauda Mani. It alledged that Governor Balarabe was guilty of gross misconduct and that, by his various actions, violated the constitution and the legal duties which he swore to uphold. The actions include the removal of Al-Haji Danladi Bello as director of audit and the appointment of boards for parastatals without the assembly's approval. Meanwhile, a meeting of all the legislative houses is [word indistinct] been planned [words indistinct].

ANGOLA

ZAMBIAN PARTY, GOVERNMENT DELEGATION ARRIVES

LD071628 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1500 GMT 7 May 81 EA

[Text] A Zambian party and government delegation led by Grey Zulu, United National Independence Party Central Committee [member] and secretary [of state] for defense and security, arrived in Luanda early this morning on a working visit to Angola. According to the Zambian party official, the visit is in the context of regular consultations between the two countries on matters of common interest. Grey Zulu said that we have an immense common border, so there are always problems of common interest to be discussed and, in our role as a frontline state, we have come to exchange experiences in various fields.

The Zambian party and government delegation, which also includes the defense, interior and security ministers, was met on arrival by our defense minister, Col Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, member of the party Political Bureau.

SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON NUCLEAR RESEARCH PROGRAMS

LD081058 Johannesburg International Service in English 1700 GMT 7 May 81

[Text] The president of the Atomic Energy Board, Dr de Villiers, says speculation on whether or not South Africa could make nuclear weapons is nothing more than an academic exercise. Dr de Villiers was speaking in Pretoria in response to a talk last night by the head of the Physics Department at the University of Pretoria, Professor Friedland, who said South Africa was capable of making atom bombs but ought not to do so. Dr de Villers said South Africa had consistently stated that its nuclear research and development programs were directed solely at peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

BRIEFS

MOZAMBIQUE-ITALY COOPERATION--The People's Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of Italy signed a cooperation agreement in Maputo today following talks begun yesterday by the joint commission for cooperation between the two countries. According to the agreement, Italy will participate in the implementation of development projects in our country in the fields of energy, telecommunications, industry, agriculture and social services. The agreement was signed by Secretary of State for Coal and Hydrocarbons ('Abd al-Majid) and Italian Deputy Foreign Minister (Aristide Gonella). [Excerpt] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 3 May 81 LD/EA]

MOZAMBIQUE-BULGARIA AGREEMENT--Mozambique and Bulgaria signed a cooperation agreement in Maputo today within the sphere of the subcommission on the industry of the Mozambique-Bulgaria joint cooperation commission. The signing of the agreement was the highlight of the proceedings of the subcommission on industry, which started on 2 May, to examine the cooperation between Mozambique and Bulgaria. The Bulgarian delegation left for home today. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 7 May 81 EA]

MOZAMBIQUE-PORTUGAL AGREEMENT--Mozambique and Portugal have reached an agreement on the contribution of the Cabora Bassa hydroelectric dam to national development, according to the national director of energy. It was also agreed that Portugal would respect the decisions of the Mozambican Government in connection with the workers of the enterprise. [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 7 May 81 EA]